

Wise County Messenger.

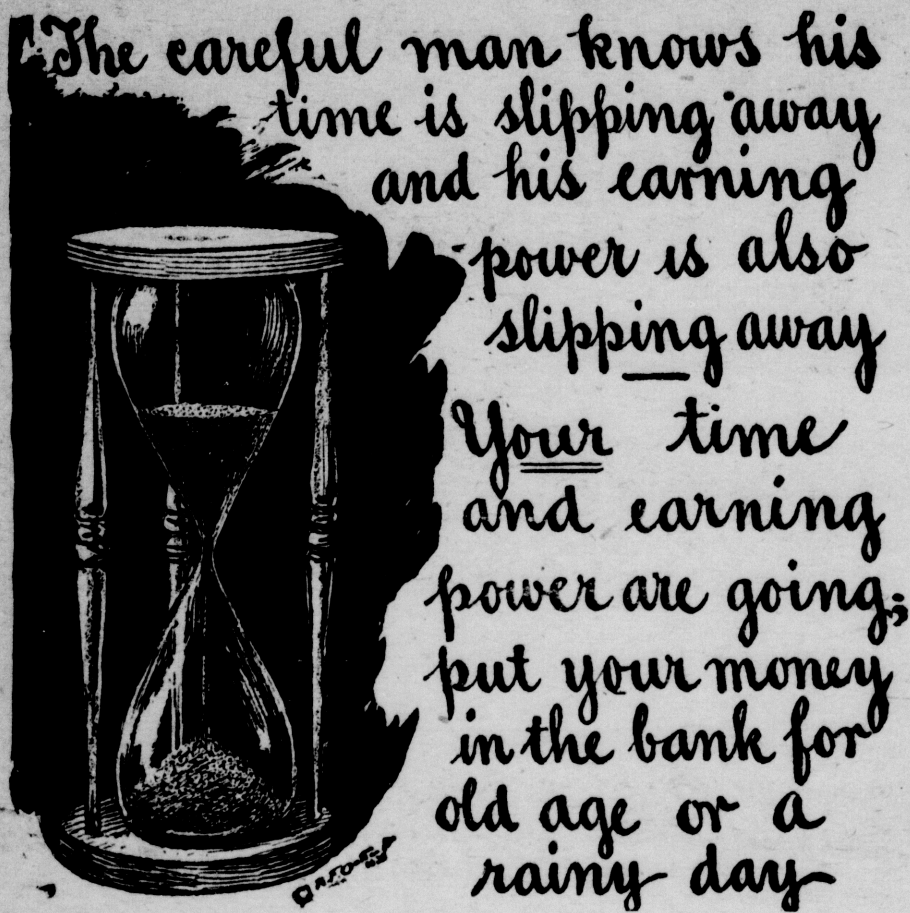
VOLUME XXXX - NO. 4.

All-Home Print.

DECATUR, TEXAS, FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 1919.

\$1.50 Per Year.

Whole No. 1961



BANK YOUR MONEY TODAY.

YOU MUST DO SO TO HAVE IT TO-MORROW.

First Nat'l Bank

DECATUR - TEXAS



The policy of the Ford Motor Company to sell its cars for the lowest possible price, consistent with dependable quality, is too well known to require comment.

Therefore, because of present conditions, there can be no change in the prices on Ford cars:

Runabout . . \$500
Touring Car . 525
Coupe 650
Sedan 775
Truck Chassis 550

We think it wise to place your order now as we expect to begin receiving shipments of cars soon

Decatur Motor Co.

Cumberland

is a good buy in Burkburnett field. Business men at Burk are stockholders in the company.

HUGH D. SPENCER KILLED BY WACO MAN; NOW SAYS A MISTAKE MADE

Bolger's Wife Gets Letter Addressed to Wife of Spencer, Who Had Stated She Was Going to Marry A Soldier at Camp McArthur Who is Named Bolanger.

BAIL DENIED MAN

Hugh D. Spencer, ex-county attorney of Wise county, former district attorney of Hall county, and one of the best known citizens of this section, was shot and killed Saturday shortly before the noon hour by W. M. Bolger of Waco. The shooting occurred between the courthouse walk and the First National bank, and after he was shot Mr. Spencer was carried to the office of Dr. D. A. Carpenter, above the bank, afterwards being taken to the Johnson-Beall sanitarium in Fort Worth, where he died Sunday morning. Bolger was taken into custody by Sam Faith, former sheriff of Wise county, and placed in jail. The weapon used by Bolger was a 38 Ivers-Johnson double action revolver. Four shots were fired at close range, three of them taking effect in Spencer's body. One shot went wild and hit Alvin Lipford, farmer, who was standing near the Brandenburg grocery on the southeast corner. The bullet hit Lipford in the leg, striking a plug of tobacco in his pants' pocket and glancing, lodged in a glove in his coat pocket. A number of people were on the street at the time, and it is miraculous that others were not injured.

The story of this terrible affair, in which one of the best known men in the community lost his life, is probably one of the strangest in the annals of criminal jurisprudence. The man who did the shooting had never seen Spencer, and in his dying statement, Hugh stated he had never seen or heard of the man. In the jail, Bolger said he had made a mistake and asked to be taken to Spencer to make an acknowledgment.

A woman figures in the cause of the terrible tragedy—the former wife of Spencer. A few months ago, Mrs. Spencer, who was a widow before marrying Mr. Spencer in Memphis seven years ago, left here for Waco, where she has relatives, taking her six-year-old son. She got employment in the Woolworth store in Waco. While working there she wrote Mr. Spencer, saying that the child wanted to see his daddy, and that she would bring him up for a short visit. Mrs. Spencer and the boy came to Decatur and spent a day and night at the Spencer home. While she was visiting here Mrs. Spencer lost a letter from her purse which her husband found. This letter was from a Mrs. Huff of Canton, Kan., and was addressed to Mrs. Louise Huff, general delivery, Waco, Texas. In the letter Mrs. Huff said she would gladly welcome home the wife of her son, who had been a soldier at Camp McArthur, but at that time was in France. This letter aroused the suspicions of Mr. Spencer, but he said nothing to his wife at the time. After she and the child returned to Waco, Spencer wrote Mrs. Huff in Canton, Kan., and the terrible fact came out in the woman's reply that his wife had married Floyd Huff of Canton, Kan., soldier at Camp McArthur, in Waco, July 24, 1918. Upon receipt of the letter from the soldier's mother, Mr. Spencer immediately called up his wife in Waco, telling her to bring his son and meet him in Fort Worth that evening. They met at a hotel in Ft. Worth, and Mr. Spencer told his wife what he had discovered, and demanded that the child be turned over to him. He told her that to protect their child he would not expose her if she would leave the country

and never return. In tears she promised to go to some relatives in Missouri. Mr. Spencer returned to his home here with the child, and Mrs. Spencer-Huff returned to Waco. Report says that the woman did not go to Missouri, but remained in Waco, posing as a young lady, and was sought after by soldiers. She is young and pretty. Upon her return to Waco she went to board with a Mrs. McClain, who, it seems, found out that her pretty boarder had a husband in Decatur. The boarding house lady wrote Mr. Spencer that his wife was staying at her home, and that she had told her she was going to marry a soldier, stationed at Camp McArthur by the name of Belanger or Boland. Mr. Spencer heard that his wife had resigned her position at the Woolworth store and had gone to work for Sanger Bros. Spencer then wrote the woman, saying he wanted her to meet him and return the insurance papers she held on his life and have them made out in favor of the child. In the letter he spoke of how the child missed her and cried to see her again. This letter was addressed to "Mrs. Belanger or Bolger, Care of Sanger Bros., Waco, Texas." In the Sanger store there worked as saleslady, a Mrs. W. M. Bolger, and the letter was delivered to her. She took the letter home and showed it to her husband. Bolger, it is said, became infuriated and suspected his wife was untrue. Mrs. Bolger reasoned with him, telling him that the contents of the letter were sufficient to convince any one that she had received the letter through mistake. Mrs. Bolger, we understand was a widow before she was married to Bolger, about one year ago. Mrs. Bolger returned the letter to the mailing department at Sanger's, writing on the envelope, "opened through mistake." Bolger, so the story goes, went to the mailing clerk at Sanger's and got the letter. He took it to one of his "good friends", a man floor-walker in the store, and they discussed the letter. Evidently Bolger's friend advised him, for he caught the next train for Fort Worth, where he took the midnight Denver train for Decatur.

Arriving in Decatur, Bolger walked up the street with Elmer Clark. He told Clark his name was "Duncan" and lived in Houston. He asked Clark if he lived in Decatur, and when told that he did, Bolger asked him if he knew Hugh Spencer. Clark told Bolger that he was well acquainted with Spencer, and gave the stranger a description of him. Early next morning, Saturday, Bolger was on the square, meeting people under the name of Duncan and making inquiry about Spencer. Someone singled out Spencer and Bolger trailed him to several places on the square, stating after his arrest that he waited until he could get his victim in the open. Spencer went into the postoffice shortly after the mail arrived from the south and Bolger followed him, asking T. L. St. Clair if the "tall man back there isn't Hugh Spencer the lawyer." Spencer came out of the postoffice and, with others, came across the square in the direction of the First National bank on the south side of the public square. Bolger walked up behind Hugh when he started across the street toward the courthouse walk. Bolger called, "Spencer," and as Hugh turned to answer the man four bullets from a gun in the hands of Bolger went into his body.

Funeral services were held at the Spencer home Monday afternoon in the presence of a large gathering of sorrowing friends and relatives. A large procession followed the remains to the city cemetery.

Hugh Spencer was 48 years of age and had lived in Decatur a long number of years. He was born at Burkburnett, Ky. He served Wise county two terms as prosecuting attorney, and after moving to Memphis, Hall county, he was elected district attorney, serving three terms. A short time ago his health failed him and he returned to Decatur to recuperate, and at the time he was killed was enjoying the best health he had had for a number of years. With the return of his health he was making arrangements



We cut our prices when we first mark our goods

WE KNOW GOOD TOOLS AND WHO MAKE THEM. LONG EXPERIENCE HAS TAUGHT US THE RELIABLE BRANDS OF TOOLS AND OTHER HARDWARE GOODS. THESE BRANDS WE CARRY RIGHT IN OUR STORE FOR INSTANT DELIVERY.

YOU WANT YOUR TOOLS TO LAST, AND HOLD THEIR EDGE. WE WILL HOLD YOUR TRADE WHEN YOU ONCE BUY YOUR HARDWARE FROM US.

WE WON'T "NICK" YOU ON THE PRICE. WE SELL OUR HIGH QUALITY TOOLS AT LOW PRICE.

USE OUR HARDWARE; IT STANDS HARD WEAR.

Helm, Ward & Dillehay

HARDWARE, GROCERIES, FURNITURE

Cash Only !!

From this time on, all MY WORK WILL BE STRICTLY CASH--- no tickets or credit to anyone.

I greatly appreciate the patronage I have received; and solicit a continuance of your business, on the basis of first-class work for your money, and your money's worth at all times. It will pay you to pay cash!

Silas Morris

Blacksmithing and Woodwork

Hands Up! Majestic Saturday, Jan. 25

to again enter the practice of law in one of the thriving towns in the pan handle, where he was known as a splendid lawyer with a fine record. Hugh Spencer was known to most every man, woman and child in this county, and during all the time of his citizenship here, which covered more than twenty years, not one word was ever heard questioning the man's honesty and integrity. He lived right and he stood for the best in this life. In the Memphis district he was recognized as one of the best and most successful attorneys, and up to the time of his marriage he was successful as a money-maker. Soon after his marriage he lost his health and his accumulations of several years were swept away.

EXAMINING TRIAL

The courtroom was crowded yesterday afternoon when the examining trial of W. M. Bolger was called before Squire Johnson. Several witnesses testified that Bolger was on the streets here Saturday morning making inquiry about H. D.

Spencer. Spencer was singled out to him by a gentleman in the postoffice, where Spencer was at the time getting his mail. Bolger left the postoffice and went across the street, stopping on the corner. Spencer passed shortly and Bolger asked a man who was standing near if the "tall man walking down the courthouse walk was Spencer." The man replied that the man was Spencer. Bolger followed Spencer to the south side of the square and as he approached him from the rear, called, "Spencer." As Spencer turned to answer the summon Bolger fired four or five times, one bullet going wild and three or four entering the back of the left shoulder and side Bolger made a voluntary statement at the suggestion of his lawyer, Mr. McNamara of Waco, in which he stated that his wife received a letter Thursday at the place where she works, Sanger Bros., addressed to Mrs. W. M. Bolger or Belinger. He stated his wife mentioned getting the letter to him at lunch and told him

(continued on page 4)

THIS IS NOT A 100-TO-1 SHOT !!

BUT IT IS A CHANCE TO

MAKE *The* MONEY!

BY BUYING FARM IMPLEMENTS, AUTO SUPPLIES and ACCESSORIES

AT GREATLY REDUCED PRICES!

We have too large a stock of Farm Implements, Auto Tires, Supplies and Accessories, and while we know the price cannot be lower this year, we now need the money bad enough that we are putting our goods on sale at prices which will bring in the needed cash. While prices are still advancing in some of those lines, we are in position to LOWER THE PRICE NOW, because we bought in the most of our Implements and Supplies at 1917 prices.

Sale Begins Monday, Jan. 27---Ends Feb. 15

YOU cannot afford to miss this opportunity of saving money on things you have to buy. Look at this list of prices and make out your list of needs. Come early to insure your getting what you want.

Farm Implements

One 3-inch Studebaker Wagon, complete with bed spring seat, double trees, single tires and neck yoke, it is worth \$135.00, sale price	\$110.00
Seven Broad tire Studebaker Farm Truck, 3 1/4 Long Bed, Spring seat, Double and Single trees, Neck Yoke, worth \$140.00, sale price	\$115.00
Three 3-inch Broad Tire Bain Special wagons, Bed, spring seat, Double and Single Trees, Neck Yoke; Regular Price \$155.00, sale Price	\$130.00
Six 3 1/4 International Broad tire Wagons, well ironed, selling everywhere at \$145.00, Complete Bed and all	\$120.00
Seven Oliver Wagons, Bois'd Arc Rims, Long Bed, Spring Seat, double and Single Trees, Neck Yoke; Worth \$155.00 Anywhere, Sale Price	\$115.00
Two Peter Shuttler Wagons, 3 1/4, Oak Bed and all complete, ready to hitch to;..... Regular Price \$140.00, will go in this sale at	\$115.00
Twelve Oliver Riding Wiggletail Cultivators, with shields, no shovels Regular Price \$80.00, Sale price	\$60.00
Twelve Walking Oliver Cultivators, Either Balance or Straight Frame, with Shields, No Shovels, Regular Price is \$55.00, our Price	\$45.00
Six Riding Oliver No. 21 Planters, outh \$57.50, sale price	\$48.00
One P. & O. Walking Planter, worth \$20.00, our Price	\$15.00
Six Gearless Moline cotton and corn planters, regular price \$25, to Close them Out in This Sale	\$18.00
Six 2-section harrows, 60 3/4-inch teeth; worth \$27.50, at \$24.00	
Three 5-Foot Cut Jones Mowers, worth \$70.00, our price	\$50.00
Three Cream Separators, The Very Best Made, Worth \$75.00, our Price	\$60.00
Six Moline Good Enough Sulkey Plows, 14-inch Complete with three-horse Eveners, weed hook, worth \$75.00, sale price \$50.00	
Three 2-Disc Rotary Dutchman Plows; Made by Moline Plow Co. The eBst Disc Plow Made, regular Price \$140, sale price \$100.00	
Four 2-Disc Plows, with 4-horse Eveners, worth \$125.00, sale Price	\$90.00
Two 3-Disc Plows, with 5-horse eveners, worth \$140.00, sale price will be	\$100.00
One Horse Rude Grain Drill, worth \$30.00, Sale Price	\$17.50
20 Oliver Cast Plows, Different Sizes, Your Choice	\$5.00

Smith Form-a-Truck

We have one Smith Form-a-truck attachment, Retail Price is \$425.00, will sell at \$325.....Convert your old Ford into a new substantial Truck.

Tires and Tubes

FISK

30x3 Plain, List Price \$17.75, Sale Price	\$14.20
30x3 Non Skid, List Price \$18.70, Sale Price	\$14.95
30x3 1/2 Plain, List Price \$25.05, Sale Price	\$18.45
30x3 1/2 Non Skid, List Price \$24.20, Sale Price	\$19.35
32x3 1/2 Plain, List Price \$27.00, Sale Price	\$21.60
32x3 1/2 Non Skid, List Price \$28.60, Sale Price	\$22.90
31x4 Plain, List Price \$35.40, Sale Price	\$28.70
31x4 Non Skid, List Price \$37.20, Sale Price	\$29.75

OTHER SIZES CASING AND TUBES CUT IN PROPORTION

G. & J. CASINGS

30x3 1/2 Plain, worth \$22.75, Sale Price	\$18.20
30x3 1/2 Non Skid, worth \$24.75, Sale Price	\$19.80
30x4 Non Skid, worth \$38.75, Sale Price	\$30.70
31x4 Plain, worth \$40.00, Sale Price	\$32.00
31x4 1/2 Plain, worth \$53.80, Sale Price	\$43.95

OTHER SIZES CASINGS AND TUBES CUT IN PROPORTION

KOKOMO

30x3 Plain Casing, worth \$18.55, Sale Price	\$14.85
30x3 1/2 Gridiron, worth \$25.85, Sale Price	\$19.40
32x3 1/2 Plain, worth \$28.70, Sale Price	\$21.55
31x4 Plain, worth \$38.30, Sale Price	\$30.65
33x4 Plain, worth \$41.05, Sale Price	\$30.80
33x4 Gridiron, worth \$43.15, Sale Price	\$32.35

OTHER SIZES CASINGS AND TUBES CUT IN PROPORTION

AJAX TIRES

30x3 1/2 Road King, worth \$24.15, Sale Price	\$19.30
32x3 1/2 Road King, worth \$29.35, Sale Price	\$23.50
31x4 Road King, worth \$39.30, Sale Price	\$31.45
33x4 Road King, worth \$41.80, Sale Price	\$33.45
34x4 Road King, worth \$42.45, Sale Price	\$33.05

OTHER SIZES CASINGS AND TUBES CUT IN PROPORTION

AJAX TUBES

30x3 grey tubes, worth \$3.65, sale price	\$2.75
30x3 1/2 Grey Tubes, worth \$4.55, Sale Price	\$3.40
32x3 1/2 Grey Tubes, worth \$4.85, Sale Price	\$3.65
31x4 Grey Tubes, worth \$6.90, Sale Price	\$4.45
32x4 Grey Tubes, worth \$6.10, Sale Price	\$4.60
32x4 Grey Tubes, worth \$6.40, Sale Price	\$4.80
34x4 Grey Tubes, worth \$6.50, Sale Price	\$4.00

OTHER SIZES CUT IN PROPORTION

PULLMAN TUBES

30x3 Red Tubes, worth \$3.00, Sale Price	\$2.50
30x3 1/2 Red Tubes, worth \$4.00, Sale Price	\$3.00

Parts for Ford Cars

Fifty 7-Leaf Front Springs for Ford Car	\$3.75
30 Rear Wheels, Brand New	\$4.75
Seventy-five Pistons, regular price \$2.35, our price	\$1.75
Thirty Large Drive Gears, worth \$4.25, sale price	\$3.75
Twenty Axles, 56-inch tread, worth \$2.50, our price	\$1.80
Thirty Head Gaskets, worth 75c, our price	30c
Twenty-five Wire Looms, worth 75c, sale price	50c
Fifty Break Shoes, worth 40c, sale price	20c
Thirty Heavy Steel Front Radius Rods, sale price	\$2.75
Ninety Fan Belts, worth 50c, sale price	35c
Three Recoverings for Tops, worth \$12.00 sale price	\$9.00
Six Radiator and Hood Covers, worth \$5.00, sale price	\$3.50
Three Honey Comb Radiators, worth \$30.00, sale price	\$25.00
Six Rear Fenders, worth \$5.00, sale price	\$3.25
Five Front Fenders, worth \$6.50, sale price	\$4.25
Three Hundred Champion X Spark Plugs, worth 90c, will go in this sale at	60c
Two Hundred Champion X Porcelains, worth 50c, sale price	35c

Auto Accessories

75c Size Lockfast, sale price	50c
20c Size Tube Cement, Sale Price	10c
10c Size Tube Cement, Sale Price	5c
\$1.00 Perrin "No Glare", Sale Price	50c
\$3.00 Warner Lens, Sale Price	\$1.50
50c Size Radiator Cement, Sale Price	35c
75c Size Radiator Cement, Sale Price	50c
Fifty Superior Spark Plugs, Sale Price	50c
75c Bethlehem Spark Plugs, Sale Price	50c
75c Splitdorf Spark Plugs, Sale Price	50c
All \$4.00 Tire Cover Values, Sale Price	\$2.50
4 lb Bucket Cup Grease, Sale Price	80c
\$1.00 Gallon Can Motor Oil, Sale Price	75c
\$4.00 5-Gallon Can Motor Oil, Sale Price	\$2.80
\$2.00 Johnson's Freeze Proof, Sale Price	\$1.15
\$2.00 Automobile Pumps, Sale Price	\$1.25
\$3.00 Automobile Pumps, Sale Price	\$2.00
\$3.00 Victor Jacks, Sale Price	\$2.00
\$4.00 2-Ton Jacks, Sale Price	\$2.90
Eureka Jacks, Sale Price	\$1.00
Red Seal Batteries, Sale Price	40c
Hot Shot Batteries, worth \$3.00, Sale Price	\$2.25
Hand Horns, worth \$3.50, Sale Price	\$2.25
Ford Anti Kicks, worth \$5.00, Sale Price	\$2.50
Twenty-five Double Barrel Pumps, worth \$2.50, Sale Price	\$1.50
Ford Vibrator Points and Springs for	40c per pair.
3-inch Blow Out Patches	35c
3 1/2 Blow Out Patch	45c
4-inch Blow Out Patch	50c
3 3/4-inch Outside Boots, Sale Price	80c
3 1/2 Outside Boots, Sale Price	\$1.00
4-inch Outside Boots, Sale Price	\$1.25
3 Rear Ford Curtains for Ford, Sale Price	\$2.25
Fifteen Ford Spark Plug Wrenches, Regular Price 50c, Sale Price	35c
Bulbs for all makes of cars, each	40c
Best Milwaukee Timers with Rollers, worth \$2.00, Sale price	\$1.40
Regular \$3.00 Tool Boxes, Sale Price	\$1.75
Ford Ventilated Wind Shields, extra Cheap at	\$13.75

To Our Out-of-Town Customers:

Send us a list of what you need, with check to cover, and we will store your goods until you can call for them.

THE MERIDIAN GARAGE

HENRY ASKEY, Owner,

East Main Street

DECATUR, TEXAS

LOCAL NEWS

Mack Mask was here from Bridgeport Monday.

Jordon Renshaw is in McKinney on business.

Luther Belew is in Dallas this week on business.

Mrs. W. E. Hand of Aubrey, is visiting friends here.

Presiding Elder Stuckey spent the Sunday in Jacksboro.

Mrs. Newton Barker of Rhome, has been visiting here.

Work horse and mules for sale.—Helm, Ward and Dillehay.

Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Hagan of Henrietta, were here Sunday.

Eugene Munn and Sam Boyd were here from Boyd Monday.

Long & Dickson pays cash for produce. West of Dallas Grocery.

Mrs. M. B. Smith spent several days in Jacksboro the past week.

Miss Grace Steen of Arlington, has been visiting relatives here this week.

Mrs. Carl Christiaa and daughter, Maxine, visited relatives in Rhome.

Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Cowling of Bridgeport, visited Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Martin of this city.

Gus Hughes has returned from Bowie, where he has been assisting Perkins-Timberlake Co.

Walter Boyd, interested in the Boyl Co., has been in Burkburnett several days this week.

Mrs. E. W. Bass, who has been sick several weeks, is improving. Messenger is glad to state.

Dr. J. V. Prunty and Holly Renshaw are in Waxahachie in the interest of the Cumberland Oil Co.

Henry Askey of the Meridian Garage, attended a meeting of the hardware and implement dealers in Dallas this week.

See the display of new spring suits dresses and blouses for the ladies in the west show window at the Red Store.

Mrs. Bob Stockton died Jan. 8 at her home and was buried in the Pleasant Grove cemetery Friday, Jan. 9. —Chico Review.

Go to Long & Dickson for feed and flour. West Main street.

Fred Spain received a painful cut on the wrist last Saturday, while working in his shop. The wound is healing nicely.

The regular meeting of the Masonic lodge will be held Saturday night, Jan. 25. The lodge now meet every fourth Saturday night.

Mrs. Melton is preparing to move her millinery parlor to the building just west of the Red Store on the north side of the square.

Elder D. F. Draper of Fort Worth will preach at the Church of Christ in Decatur morning and evening on Sunday, Feb. 2. Everybody invited.

Mrs. Clyde Lowrey and baby died Friday Jan. 9. Interment was held in Pleasant Grove cemetery Saturday. —Chico Review.

Floyd Helm and family were here Tuesday enroute to their new home at Newcastle. They have been in Ft Worth the last two weeks, where all of them had the flu.

Judge Chas. F. Spencer and family of Wichita Falls, French Spencer of San Antonio, Miss Agnes Spencer of Dallas, and Forrest Spencer of Dallas, attended the funeral of their brother, Hugh Spencer, Monday.

Jesse Lawrence, who formerly lived near Chico, died at his home at Lakeview last Thursday and was buried Saturday at Chico, Revs. W. C. Griffith and J. F. Baker conducting funeral services. Deceased was twenty-nine years old and is survived by a wife and one child.—Alvord News.

The school attendance law is being enforced in Decatur. Constable Chas. Hardwick and County Attorney J. V. Patterson are working on the job in connection with Supt. Murphree, and the youngsters who have been "laying out" of school will have to be in school or go to jail.

O'lie Meadows, aged twenty-two years, died at the home of his parents in the Prairie Point community, on Thursday night of last week of pneumonia, and the remains were buried at the Pleasant Grove cemetery Friday afternoon, Rev. J. F. Baker conducted the funeral services.—Alvord News.

Jesse Lawson, aged about 87 years, died at the home of his son-in-law, John Barton, near Pella, last night from the after effects of the flu, and his body will be buried at Ball Knob Friday; funeral services will be conducted by Rev. J. F. Redman. Mr. Lawson was a native of Missouri and came to Texas more than fifty years ago and has resided in this state and Oklahoma since. He is survived by eight children.—Alvord News.

John Casey and wife were in Ft. Worth this week to visit their son, Sergt. Joe Casey, who has just returned from the battlefields of France to a hospital at Camp Bowie. Joe was wounded in the foot while in action, and was sent to Camp Bowie for recovery. He will visit Decatur sometime this week. Joe made a first-class soldier, and his many friends and the people in general will be glad to welcome him to his home.

NOTICE

The Commissioners' court will receive bids for the depository of Wise county funds at its next regular meeting, February term. All bids will be opened on Monday, Feb. 10, at 2 p. m.—W. D. PASCHALL, County Judge.

CARD OF THANKS

I wish to thank my friends, who were so kind to me in the sickness and death of our dear husband, son and brother. My God bless you all.

MRS. HENRY BELEW,
W. D. BELEW AND FAMILY.

CARD OF THANKS

We desire to extend our heartfelt thanks and appreciation to our many friends and neighbors for their kindnesses and words of sympathy extended during the illness and at the death of our wife and daughter.

JOHN WALLACE, JR.,
MRS. M. F. SPAIN,
MR. and MRS. JOHN WALLACE

Jesse Maddux is Interested in Oil

Former Tax Assessor Jesse Maddux was here Wednesday from Cottdale. Jesse says he is the busiest man in seventeen states these days, as he is located between the two oil test wells in the western part of the county, and trying to keep up with "the situation." He says the big oil company which is drilling near Cottdale, has begun work on the well, and is prepared to rush the work to completion. The people of the Cottdale community are very much enthused over the prospects for a gusher, and leases are climbing higher every day. Jesse says, "If we strike oil in my country, I'm going to come up in my twin-six and get the Messenger editors and show them around."

McKinsie Wants Oil Advisory Board

The creation of an oil advisory board whose duties will be to investigate the stability of all oil companies doing business in Texas is advocated by Judge F. O. McKinsie of Weatherford, district judge of the Forty-third judicial district.

Judge McKinsie asserts that many people are losing money by investing in unstable oil companies and also that a law regulating the oil stock business should be passed by the present legislature. He asserts that the members of the advisory board should be expert oil men who are able to pass upon the stability of an oil adventure and who are honest enough to advise investors from a nonpartisan standpoint.

Judge McKinsie was en route to his home in Weatherford, after conducting court in Decatur for the past four weeks. He has been judge of the forty-third district for the past six years, prior to which time he was county judge of Parker county.—Ft. Worth Record.

Land Being Leased Around Bridgeport

Land-grabbing or land leasing has been engaging the attention of many Bridgeport people during the past week. Several lease-holding companies have been formed and leases made upon almost all of the available land west and south-west of town within the radius of two or three miles of the Bridgeport Oil & Gas Co's well now drilling.—Bridgeport Index.

News Notes from the High School

Since the danger from the flu has passed the entire school assembles every Monday morning in the auditorium for chapel. Bro. Luton made a splendid talk Monday morning, which was enjoyed by all.

The Wilsonian Society met in the auditorium Friday afternoon. An interesting program was given by the students.

Midterm examinations will be given the first week in February.

The College scrubs defeated the High School basket ball team at the college Saturday afternoon.

The attendance is getting back near normal now, since most of the students have had the flu.

WALTER GILLILLAND, Rpt.

Methodist Senior League Program

Subject—A hundred years of Methodist Missions.

Scripture lesson—Romans 15, 8-21.

1. The centenary: its mission—Outler Gose.

2. The centenary in the church league—Pearl Elder.

3. Africa overseas—Bertha Woldridge.

3. Africa at home—Ona B. McGlasson.

5. The league's task—Jarrel Gose.

6. Talk—Bro. Luton.

Announcements.

Benediction.

Leader—Homer Holliday.

Methodist Junior League Program

Subject—The League of intersection. The Quiet hour of Covenant, found in Matt. 18: 15-20, and John 17: 6-9, and 20: 21.

Song—119.

Song—84.

Prayer—Mrs. Collias.

Consecration—Lorene Jensen.

Time to Pray—Blanche Scott.

The Prayer—Flossie Montgomery.

Alone with God—Robert Gibson.

Roll call and Questions.

Song—69.

Prayer.

Leader: Mary McCarter.

Mildred Renshaw, Reporter.

East and West of Burk Is Undefined

Wichita Falls, Texas, Jan. 21.—Apparently the outlines of the Burkburnett pool, to the west and the east, as undefined at the present time as they were three months ago, when the derricks began to spread out from the townsite, for there have been as yet no disturbing dry holes in the east and west as there have been to the north and south.

Man Arrested for Auto Theft Escapes

J. R. McSpadden, charged with the theft of over \$59 in connection with the disappearance of the auto of H. H. Meacham on Jan. 10, escaped from Constable Henry Cantrell near Ponder Thursday night, while en route to Fort Worth over the Santa Fe from Guthrie, Okla. McSpadden slipped the chains that bound him and jumped from the moving train.

McSpadden and another prisoner who was being brought here asked permission to go to the wash room, which was granted them. While in the wash room McSpadden made his getaway and up to a late hour Friday night had not been captured.—Fort Worth Record.

Rancher Prefers His Cattle to Oil

J. H. Mecaskey of Decatur, a breeder of Hereford cattle, was in Fort Worth Sunday night. Oil lease grabbers are after him, to lease his land for drilling purposes, but he loves the cattle business too much to yield his ranch to the drill.

Mecaskey is one of the old-timers in Wise County. The Mecaskey family was among the first settlers years ago, when transportation was entirely by wagon. He is a great believer in the Fort Worth market and show and expects to have some of his best livestock in the ring in March.—Fort Worth Record.

Little Sunset Boy Shot Accidentally

The people of this community were shocked Saturday morning upon the hearing of the accidental shooting of little Wilber Stephens, the little four year-old son of Oscar Stephens, by the six-year-old son of John Miller, little Lloyd Miller, an uncle to the Stephens boy. Both little boys were playing in a wagon in the yard, when the accident occurred, and the pistol was one that had thoughtlessly been left in the wagon by older persons, and was not supposed to be loaded. The bullet entered the little body just below the pit in the stomach, passing through the liver and one lung, then out the back. The little one lingered until Monday morning, suffering much during the time, and passed away about nine o'clock. The sorrowing relatives, and especially the little boy who unintentionally did the shooting, have our sincere sympathy.—Sunset Signal.

NOTICE

For all cards of thanks, resolutions or obituaries the Messenger makes a charge of one cent per word. The money must accompany manuscript.

F. L. Spencer arrived in the city from Big Springs yesterday to attend the examining trial of Bolger. Mr. Spencer was delayed and could not get here in time for the funeral of his brother.

PASSED AWAY

For now we know through a glass darkly; but then face to face; now I know in part; but then shall I know even also as I am known.—1st. Cor. 13-12.

What a solace to our sorrowing hearts to know that though we have laid to rest our most loved sister, Dott, and it seems that the sun will never shine for us again, that some day we shall see face to face and know her as she, in all her earthly happiness and unselfish love, should be so suddenly carried away. It seems so hard that our patient father and mother should in less than three short years be called upon to bear the anguish of parting with those they love better than life. We can't understand why the young and loving husband should be called upon to bear the agony of parting with the wife he so loved and adored. But through our tears we can see that Dott was too pure for this wicked world—purer character could not be found. Her suffering was terrible but she bore it with patience and had no fear of death. All that loved ones, kind physicians and patient neighbors could do for her was done for her but none availed. God in his mercy bore her away to a home of peace. The years will be few that we will meet her again—years of pain and sorrow for us but years of joy and gladness for her. The remembrance of her pure life and unselfish love is a balm to our bleeding hearts and a shining light to guide us to that home of love, where she now abides. Her sister, ELBA.

CLASSIFIED ADVS. One Cent Per Word.

LOST

LOST—A folding camera was recently taken from the Messenger office. It contained unfinished roll of film. Please return films and kodak.

STRAYED OR STOLEN—Friday, Jan. 10, one red sow, and one red bar with black spots; weigh 200 lbs each. Liberal reward offered for any information leading to recovery. GORDON RENSCHAW, Decatur. #1

STRAYED—A small dark bay pony horse; about 14 hands, heavy; shod all around with high cork shoes; no brands; no white. \$5.00 reward. MOORE'S GROCERY, Decatur.

LOST—Strand of twisted seed pearls solid gold clasp; lost between residence of W. L. Rush and Zack Lillard Sunday night. Return to Mrs. Zack Lillard and receive reward.

FOR SALE

FOR SALE OR RENT—Good 80-acre sandy land farm.—E. P. HARDING, Decatur.

FOR SALE—My rooming house with 15 well-furnished rooms on south Trinity street, also vacant lot just south. Good bargains in both. See me at once.—T. R. HOLLIDAY. S. W. Phone 47 (Jan-24)

WOOD FOR SALE—Heating and cool wood; enquire at Dallas' grocery store.

FOR SALE—Good riding sulkey plow. See JACK RIEGER.

WOOD—2000 ricks of stovewood, heater-wood and cord wood at my place, ½ mile east of Allison store; all goes for \$2.00 a cord or rick.—T. J. LYNCH.

CASH BASIS!

From now on I will sell Feed for Cash Only to everybody. There will be nothing charged to anyone. If you order over phone, please be prepared to pay on delivery. This will enable me to sell you a little cheaper. I will still deliver your feed. I handle all kinds of feed, also Flour and Meal. I have Texas red rust-proof Oats; also white oats. See me before you buy.

Tom McCracken

TAILORING

We do all kinds Of good Tailoring. Bring your work here.

All Work Guaranteed

Cleaning--Pressing--Alteration

GREER'S Cash STORE

Hats Cleaned and Reblocked

TOMORROW'S MAN

What is done in childhood days to enrich the blood and build up rugged health often makes or breaks the man of tomorrow. The growing youth, with nervous energy overwrought, needs constant care and

SCOTT'S EMULSION

to help maintain strength and vitality equal to withstanding the dual strain of growth and wear and tear of the body. The reputation of Scott's is based upon its abundant nourishing qualities and its ability to build up strength.

Scott & Downe, Bloomfield, N. J.

18-6

Sores and Wounds on the limbs or body should not be neglected. They quickly become ulcers and are hard to cure.

BALLARD'S SNOW LINIMENT

Heals Quickly

It is an excellent remedy to keep in the house for prompt use when accidents occur. Try it for Cuts, Wounds, Sores, Galls, Swellings, Chafed Skin, Sore Feet, Oak or Ivy Poisoning. It is good for human or animal flesh. Price 25c, 50c and \$1 per bottle.

JAS. F. BALLARD, Proprietor, ST. LOUIS, MO.

FOR SALE BY MAN & SIMMONS

TOM M'CRACKEN

LICENSED AUTIONEER

Will go anywhere in the county to

sell your property. Write or phone me at Decatur, Texas

M. W. Burch

ATTORNEY-AT-LAW

Office in McMurray-Gettys Building

DECATUR, TEXAS

"Hands Up!" at Majestic Saturday

Friday, Jan. 24, 1919

Most Widely Circulated Paper in Wise County.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

Any erroneous reflections upon the character, standing or reputation of any firm, person or corporation which may appear in the columns of the Messenger will be gladly corrected upon its being brought to the attention of the publishers.—Collins & Smith, Publishers.

The wildcat found the oil pools. Keep your eye on that Bridgeport field.

Wouldn't Jack Pershing make a dandy oil stock salesman?

Hugh Nugent Fitzgerald is down at Austin watching the play. Fitz, see the Wonderful County's representative in action.

There are skimmers in the oil game, as there are skimmers in most all games. Keep your eyes open and back your judgement.

Beware of the slow-footed stock salesman who knocks all propositions except those he is deriving a commission from the sale of stock.

Several negro soldiers have been decorated for proficiency as sharpshooters. Nothing has been mentioned about their craps shooting.

Yes, the Meridian Highway, for which the people of Wise county voted a bale of bonds, will be constructed. When? We'll stand a search.

The republicans want to know why Woodrow went to France. We don't know the particular mission, but take it from us, it is ducats against doughnuts he has accomplished the work.

Some of the chickens in Dallas are a little late in getting home to roost in these evenings of frenzied oil speculations. The roosters, selling oil stock, work over-time, delaying the evening feed.

If the big city capitalists and corporation promoters are so bitterly opposed to the people playing the oil game, why are they making a desperate effort to make killings in the same business?

It seems that the soldier stock is going down in Dallas and Ft. Worth among the fair ones. The winning and dining has fallen off alarmingly, and the girls are returning to their old loves. The war is over!

There is a man's size row on in the lower Rio Grande country. Jim Wells, who has played the role of high political boss for many years, is in danger of being unhorsed. A change couldn't hurt, whatever that change may be.

The big fellow over in Dallastown is becoming alarmed about the little fellow's investments in oil stocks. The big fellow is uneasy, fearing the little fellow will lose something of his hard-earned income. You see the little fellow got into Burk Burnett before the big fellow awoke to the good things up there.

The man who murdered Hugh D. Spencer immediately uttered the time-worn stereotyped saying, "He wrecked my home." An investigation on the part of the "home-wrecked victim" would have disclosed the fact that he was on the trail of a man who has throughout his life stood for the best in this life.

The great Dallas News is of the opinion that oil stock investments are wicked and calculated to bring ruin and high water to all who play the game. Wise county citizens who have made thousands of dollars in oil investments in the Burk Burnett field beg to differ with the great Dallastown publication.

If your feet are as cold as the nose of a Norwegian sled hauler, if you have fever that runs the thermometer riot and chills aer playing basketball with the marrow in your backbone; if you have lost all interest in oil speculations, and feel yourself slipping toward the bughouse—brother, get to a warm bed and call the medicine man—you have the flu.

A number of bankers are warning their customers to "lay off the oil game," while they go in up to their eyes. One bank in Dallas has issued a notice to the effect that all employees of the institution, meaning

those below the bosses, who purchase stock in oil companies will be immediately separated from their positions, or jobs. The eight cylinder fellows believe that all Fords should be crowded off the highway.

Mr. Kell of Wichita Falls, and Mr. Munger of Dallas, men who have made thousands out of speculations more hazardous than oil, have come out in statements in which they warn the people against the oil game. In the meantime the gentlemen are promoting giant companies in the oil fields. You must understand that 1st, the earth and its holdings belong to the saints; 2nd, that we are the saints.

It is reported that one negro soldier in the Tenth cavalry lost his hat when he went into the fight in France. Fighting bare-headed was not to the liking of the black boy, so he went to work in dead earnest to get a hat. He killed ten German soldiers, so the story goes, before he secured a sky piece that would fit. Reporting to his commanding officer that the tenth German he killed wore his number, the negro trooper was told that it was fortunate for the German army that he did not lose his shoes instead of his hat.

More rains and better rains fall in the Wonderful County than anywhere in the wide, wide world. Come to Wise, all ye who are depressed and heavy laden by cruel pranks of the weather.

Reports say sixty thousand dollars worth of diamonds were sold in Wichita Falls during the past week. The fur collar overcoat market is said to have taken a tremendous boost, too. The boys with the oil wells must shine and keep warm.

The thousands of friends of Cato Sells of Cleburne, are soliciting him to run for congress from that district. The present congressman, Jim Wilson, is to land a federal judgeship. Cato Sells is one of the really big men of Texas, and the people of that district will be "going some" if they elect him to succeed Wilson. No district in Texas will be better represented.

When Grandpa Ripple reached Grand City he asked the first man he met if he happened to know Jim Sigman. "He is my son-in-law," Grandpa Ripple said, "and he is a lawyer here in town. I want to get out to his house and I don't know just where he lives." As a matter of fact he had Jim Sigman's address on a slip of paper in his pocket. Grandpa Ripple had given it to him before he left home, but he figured that if he could find some person to tell him where Jim lived, he would be doubly sure. If the person gave him the same address he had on his slip of paper he would feel certain that Jim and Lucy and the children actually lived at that place. The stranger didn't happen to know Mr. Sigman, but he said to himself that some of the Sigmans should have come to the station to meet Grandpa Ripple. He wondered what kind of people they were to let that old gentleman look for them in a strange place. But the man didn't know Grandpa Ripple, and of course didn't know that he made the long trip just for the purpose of surprising Lucy. It took him a long time to find the place, but he didn't worry. When he finally came to the house he knocked, and he was greatly surprised when one of his little granddaughters came to the door. Although the house was the very number he had on his slip of paper he fully expected a stranger to come out and tell him that Jim Sigman didn't live there. Fortunately the granddaughter didn't recognize him, and he told her to ask her mamma if he could stay all night. The child delivered this message, and Lucy came to the front. Grandpa Ripple had his back turned so she wouldn't know him until she got real close, but when she threw her arms around him he saw that he had been recognized. A few minutes later when he was seated by the fire telling about the folks at home he was the happiest boy in Grand City.

HUGH D. SPENCER KILLED IN DECATUR

(continued from page 1)

that it was not intended for her. The letter was returned to the mailing department at Sanger's by Mrs. Bolger, marked "opened through mistake by Mrs. W. M. Bolger." Bolger testified that he went to the Sanger store and got the letter from a lady there who stated that the letter was intended for his wife. Bolger took the letter and securing a pistol at an uptown store boarded the train for Decatur, arriving here Friday at night. Before leaving Waco, Bolger telegraphed to a M. C. Stone in Mangum, Okla., making inquiry about Spencer. He also sent a telegram to the postmaster at Decatur, asking about Spencer's box number. Bolger stated that he sent a letter to Decatur before leaving Waco, addressed to H. D. Spencer, saying, "I have decided to come. Signed, L." He stated his wife's name was Sallie; that he had never heard her called "Lillie," the name of Spencer's former wife. The letter found on Bolger's person immediately following the arrest, and the one he admitted was the cause of the killing follows:

"Decatur, Texas, Jan. 15.—Lillie: Don't be afraid to write me. I want you to get off from Sanger's and come to Decatur. Tell them that you have a sick brother in Fort Worth and will not be back until Tuesday. Hugh Dickson cries every day for his mother. Come Saturday night in rear sleeper and I will meet you at depot. Put on veil and no one will know you, and I will not mention your recent escapade. Don't fail to come. H. D. Spencer."

Bolger, as he was finishing his testimony broke down and cried. Addressing the court he said he did not ask for mercy. He stated that after the shooting he telegraphed his wife that he was in trouble and exonerated her. He asked her not to make any statement until she had seen him. Bolger admitted going under the name of Duncan here and told a number of people that he was a real estate dealer in Houston.

Spencer's wife worked at the Woolworth store in Waco. Spencer was informed by a Mrs. McClain a boarding-house keeper in Waco, that his wife was boarding with her and had told her she was going to marry a soldier by the name of "Bolger or Belanger," and that at that time she was clerking at Sanger's.

Denton county is entering the those of another road bond election. Here's hoping they survive the attack.

TONIGHT

Thou canst console our sad humanity With dreams of everlasting loveliness, Or cast the shadow of forgetfulness Over the haggard eyes of memory. Thou canst appease of man's infinity The deep, divine unrest; thy stars confess The living soul's imprisoned loneliness, And heart finds liberty alone in thee. Thus may we feel how changing a-vatars Shall so complete us that, perchance, when we Transcend the throes of spiritual strife And learn the deep tranquility of stars, The ineffable presence of eternity Shall find a mansion in the house of life.

—GEORGE CABOT LODGE.

BETTER THAN OIL

Did you know that there was anything better than oil? You may not believe it, but there is. "Something Better than Oil" will be the subject at the Methodist church Sunday night, the service beginning at seven o'clock. A special feature of the Sunday school will be short and interesting missionary program—don't miss it. At seven o'clock the pastor will bring the lost of the service a message on Lord Teach Us To Pray. It is planned to make an every-member-canvas Sunday afternoon, if possible, to enlist more members in the League of Intercession, as a part of the great Missionary Centenary movement. The missionary and evangelistic spirit should characterize the day's services. Come and be with us Yours to Serve.—J. P. LUTON, Pastor.

TWO MARRIAGES

Last Saturday afternoon Mr. Levery Bibbrey and Miss Minnie Wiley were united in the holy bonds of matrimony while sitting in a buggy at Decatur, the Methodist pastor officiating. They live north of the

A NEW 1919 MODEL!

The Farmer Merchant's stock of Groceries and Feed is nearing completion.

Just received 100 sacks each of Kansas wheat Shorts and Bran; also car load Krum Flour, Cornmeal, Bran, Shorts and Barley Chops.

Have just received two shipments of Garden Seed, D. M. Ferry and American Bell brand seed; also large shipments of Seed Potatoes and Onion Sets to arrive in a few days.

Can save you money on all the above articles. Come along, join the bargain seekers, the smiling crowds. Come in and purchase from me because my prices are best. Don't be deceived by anyone; come in and get my prices before buying. **IT WILL PAY YOU TO PAY CASH!** Don't pay an exorbitant price because someone will charge things to you; and then pay interest on that. My word and honor to give you honest weights and measures.

A word to city trade: Don't pay \$1.00 to get your groceries delivered when you can get them delivered for 35c. Let me help you cut the cost of edibles. Save, save, that you may be saved.

Fred Freeman

ARE YOU HUNGRY?

Try our
Hot Chili
Hot Chocolate or
Hot Coffee
with a
Pimento, Ham or
Peanut Butter
Sandwich,
and top off with
Pie--Cocoanut, Apple,
Chocolate or Pineapple--
All home-made goods

TYLER'S
Sanitary Fountain, Decatur, Tex

county seat of Wise about twelve miles and in that section they will reside.

Monday night in the county clerk's office Mr. LeBas T. Sides and Miss Lela Elizabeth Grey were married by the same minister, J. P. Luton. The young people live at Alford, Texas. The groom has just returned from France, being a member of the famous thirty-sixth division. While in a fight with the Huns he was gassed, and on account of the condition of his lungs, brought about by the gas, he was sent home. He and his bride plan to go the Colorado.

Office of the First State Bank of Decatur, Texas

NOTICE

A meeting of the stockholders of the First State Bank of Decatur, Texas, is hereby called to meet at the First State Bank Building in Decatur, Texas, on the 10th day of March, 1919, for the purpose of voting upon the proposition to close the business of the above named bank and to surrender the corporate franchise in conformity with the provisions of section 77 of the act first called session of the 29th Legislature of Texas, 1905 Revised Statutes of Texas, art 561.

GUINN WILLIAMS,
J. A. SIMMONS,
A. Y. LESLIE,
E. P. GIBSON,
J. H. MECASKEY,
Directors.

Basement Barber Shop
Best of Service.
Your Patronage is Appreciated
Phillips & Hopson

Expert BARBERS...
Will Greet You At The
W. C. Owen
TONSORIAL PARLORS
North Trinity Street.

Bold Highwaymen Hold Up Linemen

A regular old-time hold-up occurred at the pipe line camp near the Dennis Paschall place Tuesday night about ten o'clock. Two bold highwaymen appeared on the scene, with six-shooters, and proceeded to through the bunch of pipe-line workers. Two men who resisted were clubbed into unconsciousness by the bandits. After securing \$175.00 in money and checks, and other valuables from the men, the bad men backed off into the darkness. The men at the camp lost no time telephoning Sheriff Malone of the old-up, and the sheriff, with two deputies spent the night in search of the robbers. Early in the morning Sheriff Malone left his two deputies to continue the search while he was to come to the depot here in hopes of finding the men. Two suspicious men answering the description of the men wanted, were located in the waiting room at the depot. Mr. Malone, with Chas. Workman and Luther Reed, approached the men, and while Malone covered them with his gun, Workman and Reed searched them. Each had a big pistol, loaded all-around, and the money and checks taken from the camp were found in their pockets. The men gave their names as Roxie West and Tom Clark, of Fort Worth. They were brought to town and lodged in jail.

Henry and Charley Ross, Brothers, Die

Henry Ross and his brother, Charley Ross, two of the best and most popular young farmers, living east of town, are dead, victims of the dread pneumonia that frequently follows influenza. Henry died Saturday, being sick only a few days, and Charley passed away Wednesday. The terrible loss of the epidemic is given home to the people when such stalwart men are taken. Large number of sorrowing friends and relatives attend the funerals. Messenger extends sympathy to the bereaved mother and to the wife and child of Charley.

JUDGE WALKER WANTS LIST OF THOSE WANTING TO BE MADE NOTARY PUBLICS

House of Representatives, Austin, Tex., January 22, 1919.—Wise County Messenger, Decatur, Texas. Sir: You will please place in your paper of all persons desiring to be appointed Notary Publics in Wise county, to make application to me at once.

J. W. WALKER.

MR. GENE WALKER

On Jan. 13, 1919, Mr. Gene Walker died at his home nine miles south and east of Decatur, Texas. He was born on Aug. 17, 1893, at Frankford, Dallas County, Texas. They came to Wise county nine years ago in Denton county. He is survived by a wife and seven children. As a citizen of his country and community he is honorable, upright and just. He was public spirited and stood for the upbuilding of his community. And was always found on the moral side of the many perplexing problems confronting him. He was tender and loving to his family, and worked hard to provide for them all their wants, physical, mental and moral. As a neighbor he was cheerful, helpful, and always ready to serve everyone. Everyone always had a good word for their neighbor, Walker. Thus he made a good name for himself and for his family. One of the best things that can be said of anyone is what can be said of Mr. Walker—he was a good man.

Mr. Walker believed firmly and faithfully in Christ and the Christian religion. He endeavored to practice his daily life the tenants and precepts of that faith. He said as to his going, "I am ready, I have no fears."

This appreciation of him comes from one who was close to his heart and life. One to whom he proved to be a friend. He feels like he has lost one of the very best friends, and he shall always hold his memory dear to his life.

It is hoped that the God of Heaven will guide the lives and destinies of the bereaved family. His friend,

MILLARD CHILTON.

NOTICE

No hunting, fishing, wood-cutting or trespassing in any way allowed in open-wire pasture.

CHAS. BRADFORD.

Mr. Hopson went to Fort Worth Tuesday.

The Hoyl and Eagle Wells are Near Sand

Walter Boyd returned Wednesday from the Burk Burnett oil field and brought the following reports about the Hoyl Oil & Gas well, two wells in which many Wise county people are interested: Hoyl well down about 1540 feet when big flood of rain stopped drilling operations; drillers expecting to strike a good well and are anxious to buy stock in the company. Experienced drillers are in charge of the well and they feel confident of striking good flow of oil, around 1650 or 1700 feet.

The Eagle well is in trouble again. The lost bit mentioned some days ago, was pushed into side of well and drilling was started, going down 1470 feet, when bit came out of the well and fell into the well, and when Mr. Boyd left there the drillers were on another fishing job, but felt confident that with the job successful that they would hit the sand shortly and bring in one of the best wells in the whole field.

COLLEGE NEWS

The Summit staff used the chapel period Tuesday morning as a pep meeting for the creation of interest in the work of the publication. Speakers were, W. B. Harris, Rev. J. N. Hunt, Patsy Smith, Harold Matthews, and Thorn, and Erward Matthews.

Wednesday was Summit election day at D. B. C. and the following were elected to the Who-Zoo department of the Summit:

Most Athletic Boy—John Fullington.
Most Athletic Girl—Hazel Holt.
Most Popular Boy—W. B. Harris.
Most Popular Girl—Patsy Smith.
Best All-round boy—Owen Funk.
Best All-round girl—Lucile Neel.
Handsome Boy—Grady Crouch.
Prettiest Girl—Wynola Henderson.

Most Hopeless—Archie Castleberry.
Biggest Flirt—Blanche Adams.

M. H. Tolbert of Ryan, Okla spoke in chapel Monday.

Prof. J. N. Hunt was absent from his classes Wednesday.

A faculty meeting was held Monday evening.

The expression recital, which was announced for Monday night, was postponed on account of sickness.

Basket ball games have been arranged with Baylor and the university of Texas. A state trip will be made by the team about Feb. 1st.

Miss Mollie Holland, was called to her home near Valley View last week, because of the death of her brother. Flowers were sent and the following resolutions were adopted by the students and faculty in chapel Tuesday:

Whereas, our Heavenly father has in his infinite love and wisdom, seen fit to call from this life Hubert Holland, the brother of our fellow-student and friends, Miss Mollie Holland,

Be it resolved, that we, the faculty and students of Decatur Baptist College, do sincerely sympathize with her in her bereavement.

That we extend our tenderest sympathies to the family in their time of sorrow, and

That, we do pray God, that he will comfort and guide them in this, their hour of grief and affliction.

Furthermore, be it resolved, that a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family, that copies be furnished the local press, and that a copy be placed in the records of this institution.

Lewis Evans suffered a broken leg on last Tuesday morning when he was run over by a truck. The boy started to hop a truck, but fell beneath the wheel, which ran over his leg. He is doing nicely.

Allan Clark, formerly of this city died in Denton on Wednesday of last week, after a brief illness. Elmer Clark, a brother of deceased, of this city was called to Denton just before Allan died. Allan Clark was born in McGregor 36 years ago, but spent the greater part of his life in Decatur. He was a good man and a true Christian, and had many near friends in this county.

FOR RENT—Farm, 57½ acres; 45 in cultivation; feed and tools for sale; one mile northwest of Decatur. See J. C. CUNNINGHAM, Decatur.

"Under Four Flags" proved to be a very interesting picture at the Majestic Monday. Large crowds saw the war picture and were loud in their praise.

Marriage licenses: Levey Bilbey and Miss Minnie Wiley; Joseph Dethloff and Miss Martha Francis; Chas. Sides and Miss Lela Gregg.

Walter Boyd spent several days in Burk Burnett.

Elmo Brady, Jr. has returned from Wichita Falls.

Miss Pearl Elder is seriously ill of pneumonia.

D. E. Walcott was here this week from Wichita Falls.

Fred Spencer of Fresno, Cal., is visiting his mother here.

Jim Tucker is slowly improving from a severe case of pneumonia.

Mrs. Carl Faith returned Wednesday from a visit to her mother in San Angelo.

Born, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Walker Patterson, on Thursday, Jan. 21 1919, a daughter.

W. A. Helm was in Dallas this week attending the hardware and implement dealers meeting.

Another ground-soaking rain fell over this section Tuesday night and Wednesday.

The 8-months-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ross Russell, died at the family home east of town Sunday.

The remains of Mrs. Catherine Trussell, who died at her home in Dallas, were brought to Decatur yesterday for interment.

"Something Better than Oil" will be the subject at the Methodist church in Decatur Sunday night, Jan. 26.

MAN WHO KILLED SPENCER IS RETURNED TO JAIL—NO BOND

Squire Johnston, after hearing the testimony given in the examining trial of W. M. Bolger, charged with the murder of Hugh D. Spencer refused to grant him bail, and Bolger was remanded to jail. Attorneys T. J. McMurray and R. E. Carswell, two of the recognized leaders at the local bar, assisted County Attorney Patterson in the prosecution, and Mr. Bolger was represented by Attorney McNamara of Waco, one of the most prominent and successful lawyers in that section of the state. An appeal from Squire Johnston's decision will be taken to Judge McKinsey's court. The courtroom was crowded throughout the trial, and many ladies were present. The crowd as the trial progressed jammed the space in the enclosure near the judge's stand, and a majority of the ladies heard and saw very little of what transpired. The men smoked foul cigars and took their stands immediately in front of the ladies. This should have been corrected.

John Plans Return With One of Kaiser's Buttons

Kingman, Kan.—When John Barfield, colored, comes home from France, if he ever does, and brings a button off the coat or trousers of Kaiser Bill he will have paid a fine assessed against him by Police Judge Harlow.

John recently "hung a shovel" around the neck of a fellow worker. He was fined a few dollars. Before he paid the fine he was called to the colors. The judge told him what he could do, and the negro replied:

"That's sho' fair 'nough, boss. I'll do mah best to bring back dat button."

Champion Whittler.

Big Flat, Ark.—W. J. Sword is ninety years old, yet he holds a state championship. Sword is champion whittler of Arkansas. He challenges all comers. With a trusty pocketknife he began whittling on drygoods boxes fifty years ago. Now he carves out bird houses, hoe handles and little windmills.

DOCTOR FOOLED BY TWINS

Candidates for Merchant Marine So Much Alike One of Them Is Examined Twice.

Boston, Mass.—Two nineteen-year-old brothers—James R. Miller and Earl W. Miller of Chadbourne, N. C.—are the twinliest twins that ever hit Uncle Sam's merchant marine training ship here.

The examining surgeon was the first to be fooled. First he examined James R. Then he turned to his desk to make out his record, taking for granted that James would pass to the next room. But he didn't. He thought there was more to come. And of course he was examined again. "Gosh," he thought, "they do a pretty thorough job here."

"Earl," said the doctor, still talking to James, "you sure are an image of your brother."

Just then Earl entered the room. "I'm through with you, James," said the doctor, speaking to Earl.

"Don't I get examined?" inquired Earl. And then a great light dawned on the doctor.

Compare the Messenger with any other county paper you may take!

HONORED BY FRENCH

Yankee Doctor Wins Commission as Captain.

Highest-Ranked American Citizen in French Army During War.

Paris.—The highest-ranked American citizen in the French army during the present war is Dr. Henry Michel of Augusta, Ga., who earned a captain's commission in the service of our ally before transferring over to the United States army.

Doctor Michel came to France at the beginning of the war and volunteered in the French army. Owing to the crying need for surgeons, he was at once commissioned as a second lieutenant and assigned to a base hospital. His hard work and ability won him promotion to a first lieutenant after the Verdun offensive in the first half of 1916 when he was stationed at Troyes, the great evacuation center for the French wounded.

Afterward Doctor Michel was transferred to Lyons and was placed in command of a military hospital there and promoted to captain. The Foreign Legion has its base depot at Lyons, and Doctor Michel knew almost all of the Americans enlisted in that unit. He was also a great friend of United States Consul Jones at Lyons.

A year ago Doctor Michel offered his services to the A. E. F. and was sent to American Red Cross hospital No. 1 at Neuilly, the former American ambulance. He is also surgeon in chief of the American hospital for civilians in Neuilly.

Only a few other Americans have ever received commissions in the French army, and they were all second lieutenants with the exception of William Thaw of the Lafayette Escadrille, and Sweeney of the Foreign Legion and later of the tank corps, who were first lieutenants. The aviator pilots of the Lafayette Escadrille were only sergeants, with the exception of Dudley Hill, an adjutant. Lufbery was only a second lieutenant.

BOHEMIA HIVE OF INDUSTRY

Little Country, Now to Be Given Opportunity to Progress, Has Been Much Misunderstood.

Not one of the little countries which have come into being as independent states, or parts of new nations, since the triumph of the allies, is more often misunderstood in America than Bohemia has always been. The very name has implied, for many persons, the unconventional ways of artists, the gypsying of vagrants, and the impatience of restraint which is supposed to characterize countries remote from great centers of trade and industry and rather backward in their business interests.

But Bohemia is a wonderful hive of hard-working and skilled artisans. It is one of the most densely populated countries in the world, exceeding, in that respect, Germany, Austria-Hungary, as a whole or in either half of the old monarchy, and even Italy. The number of inhabitants, in proportion to the area, is 75 per cent greater than it is in France. Bohemia is almost exactly half as large as Ohio, but its population, nearly 7,000,000 at the beginning of the war, is about 35 per cent greater than that of this state.

There is no other division of Austria-Hungary, taking into the reckoning the entire territory formerly in that dual monarchy, which is equal to Bohemia in manufactures. It is a notable center of iron and steel production. Its textiles are an important factor in the trade of Europe, and its glassware, china, sugar, beer, chemicals, paper, tobacco, lace, toys and many other products of skill and patient labor are widely known. Necessarily, the commerce of so busy a country is large and far-reaching.

All that Bohemia needs is the opportunity which has come at last to prove the capacity of its people for great progress beyond the level they have already attained.

Smothered Cabbage.

Remove wilted leaves from cabbage. Cut in quarters and remove tough center. Then pass through meat chopper. For every five cupfuls of cabbage, melt four tablespoonfuls butterine in hot pan. Add two tablespoonfuls flour gradually and blend well. Then add half a cupful of water and half a cupful of milk, stirring constantly. Bring to boiling point, add cabbage, two-thirds tablespoonful of salt and a dash of paprika or black pepper. Mix well and cover. Cook slowly nearly an hour.

Control of Clothes Moths.

Packing woolen goods, furs and rugs in tightly-sealed pasteboard boxes or wrapping them in paper will prevent clothes moths and carpet beetles from destroying them, according to entomologists of the Ohio experiment station. Frequent brushing and airing in the summer prevents the insects from getting a foothold. Steam cleaning and the use of gasoline in cracks in floors or in storage boxes are also recommended to control these pests. Naphthalene tends to repel moths.

WHEN THE BOWELS DON'T MOVE

At the regular morning hour you're uncomfortable and the longer this condition exists the worse you feel. A dose of

PRICKLY ASH BITTERS

IS THE REMEDY YOU NEED

It quickly sets things moving. You feel better at once, and after a copious bowel movement, you experience that thrill and joy of living, that exhilaration of spirits and activity of body and brain that only those can feel whose internal organs are in a state of functional activity and cleanliness. It helps digestion, sweetens the breath and restores vigor of body and brain. Try it. Sold by all dealers in medicine.

Price \$1.00 per Bottle

Prickly Ash Bitters Co., Proprietors, St. Louis, Mo.

FOR SALE BY C. B. GUNN, Druggist

HELM, WARD & DILLEHAY

UNDERTAKERS and LICENSED EMBALMERS

SERVICE GIVEN NIGHT OR DAY

PHONES: S. W., Day, 38; Night, 141. Ind., day, 19; Night, 58

See "Under Four Flags" at the
Majestic Monday, January 20th

An instrument recently invented by a garage man indicates by its dial on the dashboard when the storage battery of an automobile needs water through evaporation or leakage of the electrolyte in any of its cells. The dial is that of a voltmeter installed on the dash and connected to the battery by wires forming a closed circuit. When the fluid in the battery reaches a dangerously low level, the warning signal appears behind the glass of the dial.

Problematical.

"What's the value of that trunk?" inquired the baggage man.

"You mean my wife's trunk over there?" asked the man who was smoking a Pittsburgh stogie in a gold-mounted meerschaum holder.

"Yes."

"Well, my private opinion is that the whole outfit ain't worth four dollars. But if you had ever seen my wife get really riled you wouldn't lose it for a million."

The Day After.

Mrs. Mixer—Tell me the worst, doctor. Is my husband's condition serious?

Doctor—There is no cause for alarm, madam; he is now out of danger, although suffering acutely from enlargement of the cerebral glands.

Mrs. Mixer—But, doctor, how do you suppose it was brought on?

Doctor—It was brought on a tray.

\$100 Reward, \$100

The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dreaded disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages and that is catarrh. Catarrh being greatly influenced by constitutional conditions requires constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Medicine is taken internally and acts thru the Blood on the Mucous Surfaces of the System thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietors have so much faith in the curative powers of Hall's Catarrh Medicine that they offer One Hundred Dollars for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of testimonials. Address F. J. CENEY & CO., Toledo, Ohio. Sold by all Druggists. 75c.

Strong Men

The Nation needs strong men and the right time to begin to build up strong manhood is during the growing period of childhood. Many mothers remember, with keen satisfaction, the days when

SCOTT'S EMULSION

was one of the determining factors in building up the strength of their children. Scott's is a source of nourishment and strength that ought never be overlooked by the mother of today who is anxious about her fast-growing boy or girl.

Scott & Bowne, Bloomfield, N. J.

Dr. S.P. Nash

DENTIST

Removed to South-east Corner of the Square. Office Over Brandenburg's Grocery Store.

F. J. Ford

ATTORNEY-AT-LAW

Office Up-Stairs in Messenger Bldg. DECATUR, TEXAS

A FAMILY MEDICINE

In Her Mother's Home, Says This Georgia Lady, Regarding Black-Draught. Relief From Headache, Malaria, Chills, Etc.

Ringgold, Ga.—Mrs. Chas. Gaston, of this place, writes: "I am a user of Thedford's Black-Draught; in fact it was one of our family medicines. Also in my mother's home, when I was a child. When any of us children complained of headache, usually caused by constipation, she gave us a dose of Black-Draught, which would rectify the trouble. Often in the Spring, we would have malaria and chills, or troubles of this kind, we would take Black-Draught pretty regular until the liver acted well, and we would soon be up and around again. We would not be without it, for it certainly has saved us lots of doctor bills. Just a dose of Black-Draught when not so well saves a lot of days in bed."

Thedford's Black-Draught has been in use for many years in the treatment of stomach, liver and bowel troubles, and the popularity which it now enjoys is proof of its merit.

If your liver is not doing its duty, you will suffer from such disagreeable symptoms as headache, biliousness, constipation, indigestion, etc., and unless something is done, serious trouble may result.

Thedford's Black-Draught has been found a valuable remedy for these troubles. It is purely vegetable, and acts in a prompt and natural way, regulating the liver to its proper functions and cleansing the bowels of impurities. Try it. Insist on Thedford's, the original and genuine. B 78



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Here is your opportunity to insure your future success! Know the meaning of every word, know the pronunciation and proper choice of words, and you will be a success! Here is a universal question which which results in power and success.

Webster's New International Dictionary is an all-knowing teacher, a universal question-answer, made to meet your needs. It is daily used by thousands of successful men and women throughout the world. 400,000 Words, 2700 Pages, 6000 Illustrations, 17,000 Biographical Entries, 30,000 Geographical Subjects. GRAND PRICE (Highest Award) \$3.00. (For School and Home Use) \$1.50. (For Single Copies) 75c. Write for Sample Page and Full Description. G. & C. MERRIAM CO., Springfield, Mass., U.S.A.

We are local agents for the

FT. WORTH RECORD

Saunders & Ingram

Decatur, Tex.

Letters From France

Work of The Red Cross of America

The work of the American Red Cross is literally invaluable. Much has been written and said the past four years of this organization, at present, of such dimensions and motive power now functioning as one had never imagined possible.

The Red Cross as an organization has long been in existence, but not until America stepped in beside the allies in their struggle for freedom, was it appreciated to the fullest extent.

Shortly after we entered the world war, hundreds of thousands were swept up in the great wave of the draft—the most tremendous host of manhood the world has ever seen. The hour was at hand for organization in the full sense of the word and the leaders of the Red Cross lost no time in discussions. Red Cross drives were launched; posters were to be seen everywhere; papers and magazines were devoted to articles and advertisements; Red Cross Chapters and societies were organized in every city, village and community, from Maine to California.

The American people were not long in grasping the opportunity of having the privilege, presented to them by the Red Cross, of having in the greatest of world's events a share, in which, I believe, every American takes honest pride. Those mothers and loved ones who could not go with the boys to the battle fields, found in the Red Cross a medium and agency whereby, they could give some tangible expression to their sympathy for France and their gratitude for the military and political aid which France afforded to our own struggling young republic far back in the eighteenth century.

Every effort has been put forth by the workers of the Red Cross to live up to its purpose, which was, "To create a world of equal opportunities for the comfort and happiness of all."

Being one of them, I do not hesitate in saying that the attitude of every man of the 89th Aero Squadron toward the Red Cross, is one of the most enthusiastic appreciations. I have never heard one word of criticism spoken by an American soldier.

Enroute from Kelley Field, Texas to Mineola, New York, cigarettes, tobacco, fruits and cookies were waiting for us at various points. Later, while awaiting orders to sail, we were given sweaters, gloves and helmets, which had been knitted by the white-haired grand-mothers down to the six or seven year-old school girl, and many of us still have those same sweaters, and have given them one winter's wear in "Sunny France." We have not forgotten how we enjoyed those cups of hot coffee at numbers of stations on our journey thru England and France—neither have we forgotten those gifts of cigarettes and tobacco while at Colombey-les-Belles, when a cigarette stub loomed up like a thousand dollars in new money, nor those heavy wool socks that played an important part in seeing us through the beautiful mud.

The work of the American Red Cross, consisting of several different departments, has always been where it was needed worst. Compared with the Spanish-American war, of only twenty years ago, we are ten times better cared for in regard to our bodily well-being; ten times better protected from the hazard of disease—which in previous, has been about as deadly as bullets. True, the Medical Department of the U. S. Army has a higher standard of efficiency, but without the aid of the American Red Cross this record could never have been attained.

When we think of the American Red Cross of today and its magnificent contributions to the great victory, and the spirit in which the work and gifts of this organization has been distributed, which is always, "Gift of the American people through the American Red Cross," we think not only of the American Red Cross as an organization like that of the Y. M. C. A., but of the American people who responded so quickly to the call.

We, as American soldiers, owe a debt of gratitude to those who put their all into this great work for humanity. There are no words to express our appreciation for the many things made possible by The American Red Cross—First, Last and Always. SER. C. W. HANDLEY
M. D. 89th. Aero Squadron, France

Monroe Bridges has returned from a stay in allas.

Sam Ford of Dallas, was here Saturday and the funeral of his father. One had a notice to the players of the in-

Clyde Handley of Bridgeport Writes

Somewhere in France,
Dec. 11, 1918.
Mrs. R. D. Handley,
Bridgeport, Texas.
My Dear Mother:—

I was called on to write an article of appreciation in memory of the American Red Cross for "The Zoomer," a history of the 89th Aero Squadron, which will be ready for publication in a few months time. To have given the full detail of the things accomplished by this organization would have taken months.

The rumors of our speedy return to the states have just about all died down. Of course it was quite natural for every American soldier to think he was the first to go home, and you can't imagine the nature of the rumors and the number of them that can originate in a post of this size. Everything is going on just as it was before the armistice was signed a month ago, today, and everything points to a second Xmas for us in France.

Think I wrote you of my being recommended for sergeant First class examination. Will go before the examiners' board tomorrow. Only have seventeen subjects to be examined, so you can imagine just how I have been studying for the past few days. If I am in the service four months longer I expect to make the M. H. S. (Master Hospital Sergeant.) I expect to spend a few days in Paris before Xmas, so if you receive a check for some odd amount of dollars, don't be surprised. Last month one of our lieutenants sent a cablegram to his father that read like this, "Send one hundred dollars. With love, Ted." The old man replied, "One hundred dollars cabled today. Why the love?"

Have work to do, so will call this off. Am enjoying a good health and always happy. With love and best wishes to all. CLYDE.

Henry Madden Has Been Sent to 80 Div.

Somewhere in France,
Dec. 20, 1918.

Mrs. W. C. Batdorf,
Decatur, Texas.
My Dear Sister:—

I hope this letter finds you all well. I am fine and dandy and sure would like to be back home with you all and don't think that I will have to stay much longer. Lois, I received six letters from you today and was sure glad to hear from you, for you always tell me all of the news. I also received the cigarettes all O. K. I sure was proud of all you sent to me.

I couldn't get back to Captain Lillard's company after I left the hospital. I was put in Co. A, 320th Infantry, 80 Division. Jack Holmes and I are together and if I come back with this division we will be sent to Richmond, Va., but sure hope I will get to come back with the 36 division, for I had so much rather come to Fort Worth, of course. We are in a little old town and don't know when we will leave, but hope that it will be soon, for it rains here every day, although, it is not cold here.

I am so blue that I can't write, so will quit. With lots of love to you all, Your brother, HENRY.

W. L. Adams Writes Parents

Somewhere in France,
Dec. 17, 1918.

Mr. and Mrs. Z. S. Adams,
Decatur, Texas.
Dear Father and Mother:—

I will write you all a few lines to let you know that I am well and all O. K. Hope this will find you all well and enjoying life. I have gotten several letters from you all lately, you know that I was more than glad to get them. I got one two days ago that was written in September. Is everyone getting ready to have a big time Xmas? I don't know where I will spend it for sure, but think that it will be here in Chatillon-Sur-Seine.

I don't have any idea when I will come home, it might be soon, and again it might be some time.

Have any of the boys in the training camps at home been discharged yet? I read in the paper where they were to be let loose soon, but haven't seen any more about it.

I guess you are still having plenty of rain, aren't you? It hasn't been so very cold here, for I don't know when it will quit raining, however, today has been a pretty one.

Well, I will close for this time, and am hoping to hear from you all soon, with much love and best wishes to you all, W. L. ADAMS.

Letter Received from Claude Almonroad

Somewhere in France,
Dec. 8, 1918.

My Dear Mother:—
How are you all by this time? I suppose you are rejoicing that the war is over. We hope to be on our way home soon, and wish I could get home in time to spend Christmas.

We are now one hundred and seventy-four kilometers (106 miles) southeast of Paris in the state of Aube. I think we have traveled all over north-eastern France and don't think we were riding in a Pullman all this time, for we didn't, excepting a few rides in trucks. It was hike, hike, hike and then some more hiking, and then part of the time fighting. We sure have had some wonderful experiences over here, and some that I do not care to go through again.

I have been getting your letters all of the time. Answer soon, Your son, CLAUDE ALMONROAD.

REPORT OF CONDITION OF THE First State Bank

AT PARADISE, TEXAS.
At close of business, Dec. 31, 1918.

RESOURCES	
Loans and discounts, personal or collateral	46,876 31
Loans, real estate	887 50
Overdrafts	519 47
Bonds and stocks	2,695 00
Real estate (b'n'g house)	3,500 00
W. S. Stamps	527 82
Furniture and fixtures	500 00
Due from approved reserve agents, net	15,700 00
Cash items	223 74
Currency	5,396 00
Specie	2,199 10
Interest and assessment Depositors' savings fund	814 37
Cash collections	313 25
TOTAL	80,153 44

LIABILITIES	
Capital stock paid in	10,000 00
Surplus fund	10,000 00
Undivided profits, net	8 75
Individual deposits, subject to check	56,119 60
Time certificates of deposit	2,772 00
Cashier's checks	1,945 01
Reserve for taxes	208 08
TOTAL	80,153 44

State of Texas, county of Wise, we Guinn Williams, as president and H. T. Bridges, as cashier of said bank, each of us, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of our knowledge and belief. GUINN WILLIAMS, President, H. T. BRIDGES, Cashier.

CORRECT—Attest: S. B. PEARSON, J. H. GOLAZ, O. L. HARTSELL, Directors.
Subscribed and sworn to before me on this, the 15 day of January, 1919.—T. L. TAYLOR, Notary Public, Wise county, Texas.

SHERIFF'S SALE

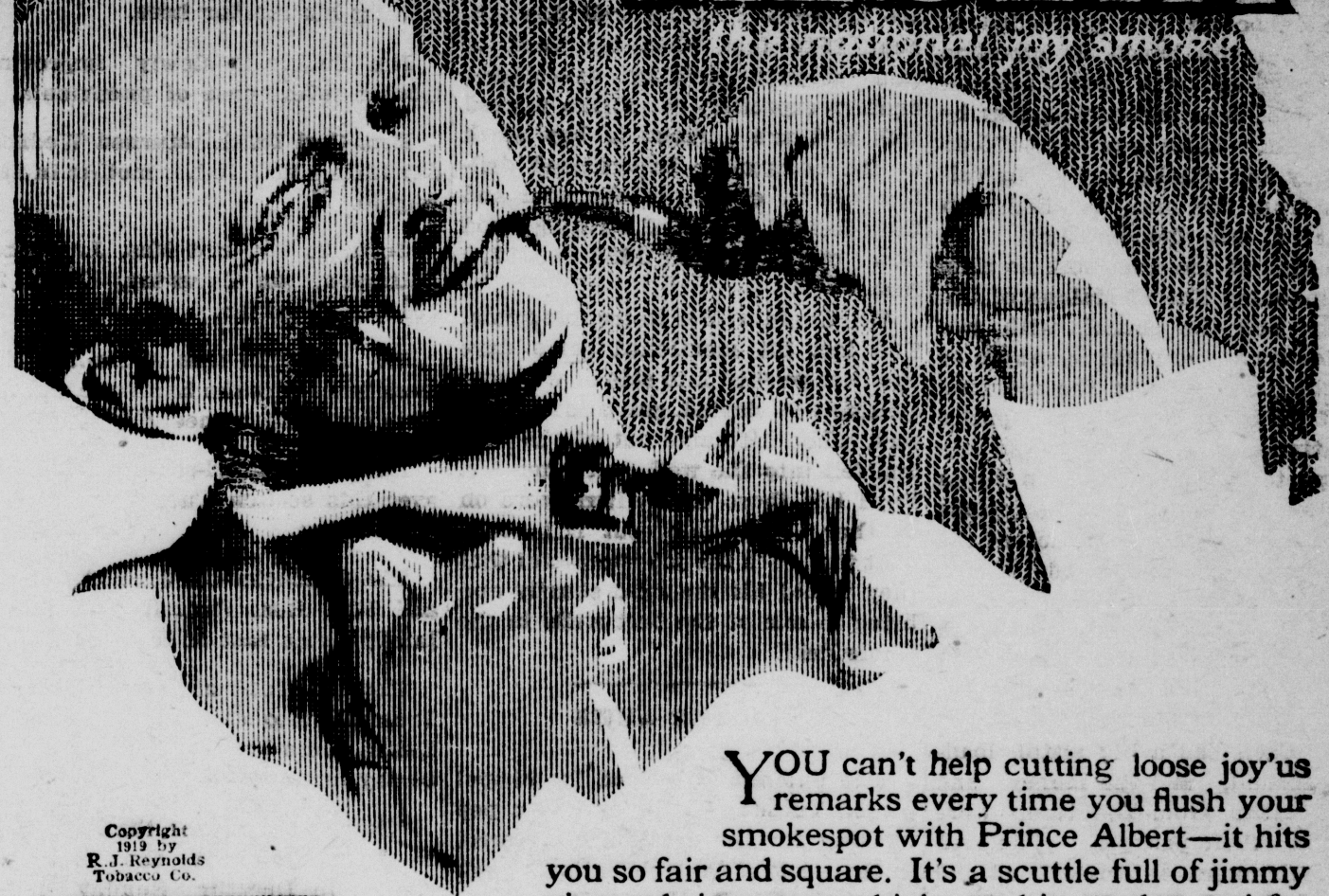
The state of Texas, county of Wise By virtue of a certain order of sale, issued out of the honorable district court of Wise county, on the 26 day of November, 1918, by W. V. Cunningham, district clerk of Wise county against Mrs. E. F. Laird, for the sum of Thirteen and 22-100 (\$13.22) dollars and costs of suit, in cause No. 1570 in said court, styled City of Decatur versus Mrs. E. F. Laird and placed in my hands for service, I, W. M. Malone, as sheriff of Wise county, Texas, did, on the 14 day of January, 1919, levy on certain real estate, situated in Wise county, described as follows, to-wit: Lot No. 1, Block No. 12, Range D of the Devereux addition to the city of Decatur, Texas. Block No. 69 of the Tarlton addition to the city of Decatur, Texas, and levied upon as the property of said Mrs. E. F. Laird, and on Tuesday, the 4th day of March, 1919, at the court house door of Wise county, in the city of Decatur, Texas, between the hours of ten a. m. and four p. m. I will sell said real estate at public vendue, for cash to the highest bidder, as the property of said Mrs. E. F. Laird by virtue of said levy and said order of sale.

And in compliance of law, I give this notice by publication, in the English language, once a week for three consecutive weeks immediately preceding said day of sale, in the Wise County Messenger, a newspaper published in Wise county.

Witness my hand, this 14 day of January, 1919.—W. M. MALONE, Sheriff of Wise County, Texas. By Geo. T. Gage, Deputy. (dJan-31)

Com. W. B. Splawn announces that all things are in readiness for beginning work on the Meridian road just as soon as weather conditions will permit.

PRINCE ALBERT



YOU can't help cutting loose joy'us remarks every time you flush your smokespot with Prince Albert—it hits you so fair and square. It's a scuttle full of jimmy pipe and cigarette makin's sunshine and as satisfying as it is delightful every hour of the twenty-four!

It's never too late to hop into the Prince Albert pleasure-pasture! For, P. A. is trigger-ready to give you more tobacco fun than you ever had in your smokecareer. That's because it has the quality.

Quick as you know Prince Albert you'll write it down that P. A. did not bite your tongue or parch your throat. And, it never will! For, our exclusive patented process cuts out bite and parch. Try it for what ails your tongue!

Toppy red bags, tidy red tins, handsome pound and half pound tin humidors—and that clever, practical pound crystal glass humidor with sponge moistener top that keeps the tobacco in such perfect condition.

R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company, Winston-Salem, N. C.

AT THE BAPTIST CHURCH

There were 204 in Sunday school and more than \$70.00 from the class as for Buckner Orphans' Home. The congregation was very large at the morning service and the house was crowded at night. The pastor preached his fifth sermon from Phil. at the morning hour and on "The Home" at night. Mr. North and Miss Francis Roberts sang to the delight of all. All services next Sunday as usual. Let the members of the Sunday school be on time. The pastor will preach again on Paul's letter to the Phillippians at the morning service and on a practical and popular theme at night, which will be of interest to all. Special music will be provided and large crowds are expected. You are always welcome. HARLAN J. MATTHEWS, Pastor.

FRUIT TREES AT A BARGAIN

I have on hand \$300 worth choice selection of fruit trees. About 6-8 Early Wheelers in the lot. I will sell at REDUCED PRICES. Come quick while they last. Leave word or telephone Gunn's drug store. J. C. DIXON, Sales Agent for Durant Nursery Co., Decatur, Texas.

FREE MAP & PHOTOGRAPH BURKBURNETT, TEXAS

Showing world's wonder oil field sent absolutely free upon request. Ask for it today.

BROWN-WORTH OIL CO.
No. 1015 1/2 Main St. Ft. Worth, Tex.

Hundreds of Thousands of WEBSTER'S NEW INTERNATIONAL

DICTIONARIES are in use by business men, engineers, bankers, judges, architects, physicians, farmers, teachers, librarians, clergymen, by successful men and women the world over.

Are You Equipped to Win? The New International provides the means to success. It is an all-knowing teacher, a universal question answerer.

If you seek efficiency and advancement why not make daily use of this vast fund of information?

400,000 Vocabulary Terms. 2700 Pages. 6000 Illustrations. Colored Plates. 30,000 Geographical Subjects. 12,000 Biographical Entries.

Regular and India-Paper Editions.



Write for specimen pages, illustrations, etc. Free. A set of Pocket Maps if you name this paper.
G. & C. MERRIAM CO., Springfield, Mass.

The First Xylophone

Once upon a time Mendelssohn heard a musical instrument at which he greatly marvelled. He thought it merely a toy—"a few sticks lying on straw, and struck with other sticks," said Mendelssohn, describing it. "Yet," he had to add, "its tone was sweet and bell-like." It was known then as a straw-fiddle, this little toy instrument that musicians laughed at in derision.

Now you call it a xylophone—unique little agile athlete among makers of music.

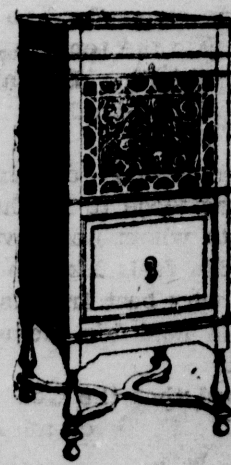
The RE-CREATED music of the xylophone—the modern xylophone—that no one now dares deride, you can have in your own home if you own

The NEW EDISON

"The Phonograph with a Soul"

The dainty, trilling Mocking Bird, the thunder of Cavalry in von Suppe's great overture, the triumphant strains of the masterful overture from "William Tell"—these and many others are best suited to the peculiar talents of the xylophone. The greatest, most skillful players of the modern xylophone have played them for The New Edison. And in tones you cannot distinguish from the original, The New Edison will RE-CREATE them for you, at your pleasure.

Ask us to RE-CREATE for you the xylophone selections of George Hamilton Green, Charles Daab or Lou Chitka Frisco.



Decatur Drug Co.

If you want the best papertake Messeng

Place Of Fertilizers In Southern Agriculture

Farmer-Banker Discusses Real Value of Fertilizers Out of His Years of Experience, Observation and Study—Timely Topic Relating to Vital Southern Problem—Extracts From an Address.

Bright Williamson, Darlington, S. C.

Agriculture is the bed rock and foundation upon which every other industry must stand or fall. All the people prosper or fail to prosper according to the abundance of the harvest of the soil, and upon agriculture depends the prosperity and happiness of the world.

Better methods of agriculture include the use of modern implements, modern cultivation and soil improvement. This brings us directly to the importance of the fertilizer industry as a means of improving our soils. Fertilizers are absolutely essential in order to increase the fertility of the soil. They have a direct effect upon agricultural production and through the products of agriculture a direct effect upon all other industries.

Anything which contributes to an increase in our agricultural production, contributes to the welfare, comfort and prosperity of our people as a whole; and this brings us directly to the consideration of the importance of the fertilizer industry in relation to other lines of business.

Fertilizers Necessary in South

The very nature of our soil, climate and rainfall makes it impossible to farm successfully without regularly feeding our crops from artificial sources with at least two of the several principal elements entering into the composition and development of plant life. Without fertilizers much of the best producing cotton lands in the South would become unproductive and farming would be unprofitable. In many states, except in a few localities, soil is no more capable of producing without being fertilized than stock is capable of performing work without being fed. Our lands must be fed just as we feed the stock that work them or they will become too poor to even pay the cost and expense of cultivation.

Transformed Sections

Large sections of land in various parts of the South Atlantic States, forty or fifty years ago, required four or five acres to produce one bale of cotton, which now, by intelligent farming, made possible by the use of fertilizers, yield one bale to each acre, or the equivalent, of other crops. Poverty stricken sections of one or two generations ago have been transformed into populous and prosperous communities. Our ability to rebuild and make our lands more fertile has enabled people to live and settle in more desirable communities, and to enjoy advantages of better markets, schools, churches and social conditions. Better rural conditions have made the "back to the farm" movement not only a possibility, but a reality.

Prosperity Due to Fertilizers

Whatever may be the direct benefit, it is obvious from a study of the situation that the present prosperity and greater population in South Carolina is due more largely to the use of commercial fertilizers than to any other cause, because in South Carolina fertilizers are absolutely necessary to profitable agriculture, upon which most of our business and other industries depend. Had it not been for the use of commercial fertilizers South Carolina could not be considered an agricultural state.

Taking into consideration the cost of fertilizers, statistics will bear out the statement that the once worn out

and abandoned fields of South Carolina yield a greater profit per acre than the richer river lands, once the pride of the Southern cotton planter, or than the more fertile lands of Texas.

Land Values Increased

This statement is reflected in the fact that these same lands in parts of South Carolina are selling freely for more than \$100.00 per acre.

I have been dealing with the effect of the fertilizer industry and the use of fertilizers on agriculture, because, as I have said, the effects on business generally must result from the effect on agriculture, and it is obvious that they must be innumerable. The fertilizer business in the South is one of the most important, and concerns our prosperity more directly than any other industry, and in its effects no other industry so ramifies into other business or has a greater effect on the industries and business generally.

Helps Railroads and Manufacturers. Perhaps among the industries which are more particularly and directly benefited by the use of commercial fertilizers are the railroads and common carriers, which first bring fertilizers to the farmers, and in return transport the increased products of the farm to the ends of the earth; and finally when these products are sold, for a third time, the railroads are called upon to bring to the farmer his supplies of foreign and domestic products.

The use of fertilizer has made more spindles in the South, more oil mills, more live stock, more people and more commerce. The tobacco crop and our trucking industry, requiring intensive fertilization and plant food, would be practically unknown to us. Ships bring raw material from foreign shores in greater quantities and in return carry away more cotton and grain.

Cheapens Cost of Producing Crops. The commercial business is affected in even greater proportion than the farmer himself, and there is no farmer in the South who is not benefited by the judicious use of commercial fertilizer. Large crops give to the people a greater supply at a lower cost of production and at a lower price to the consumer, while on the other hand small crops not only increase the cost of production, but may increase in even greater proportion the price to the consumer. When harvests are abundant the consumer and producer alike share in the increased prosperity.

Other means of cheapening the cost of production can be used profitably only on a very large or on a very small scale, but fertilizers can be applied with practically the same success to the smallest as well as the largest undertaking from the individual plant in the flower pot to the thousand-acre cotton field.

It was my pleasure some years ago to know many more manufacturers and dealers in fertilizers than I know at present, but I wish to testify to the high character and intelligence of those with whom I became associated.

The proper use of commercial fertilizer by the farmer is obviously of vital importance to the fertilizer industry as well as to the farmer, and it is a matter that should receive thought and careful consideration at all times by those who promote the industry.

Aim At Above-the-Average Yields In 1919

(From Progressive Farmer, Dec. 31.)

For the average Southern farmer, we cannot think of a better resolution for the New Year than one calling for better than average yields. Average yields, whatever the crop, mean, over a period of years, little more than a living wage. But as the individual farmer rises above the average, his net profit, nine times in ten, correspondingly rises. The man who raises cotton must see that our average of about one-third of a bale per acre can only mean poverty to the grower; the man who grows corn and oats at our average rate of 15 to 20 bushels per acre must see that there can be no profit in such yields; our peanut and tobacco farmers, our dairy and general livestock farmers must see that so long as they are content with a merely average yield per acre or per animal, just so long will they find the farming game unprofitable and unsatisfactory.

Good land, planted to good seeds and well fertilized and well tilled is the key to successful farming; for good land, plus good seed, fertilization and tillage, means high yields and good profits. In the new year, every farmer should aim at these; and in getting

them, it should be remembered that rather liberal expenditures are justifiable. For instance, when a bale of cotton with the seed is worth \$150, our average per acre yield of one-third of a bale is worth \$50; but when we increase this to two-thirds of a bale, worth \$100, we have a gross profit of \$50 with which to pay for the cost of the increase. Of course the cost of this increased yield, if the matter be gone about judiciously, will practically never be as much as \$50. More often than not, in fact, it will be \$25 or less, leaving a net profit of \$25 or more per acre. And the same rule will hold with other crops and livestock as well. The higher the yield per acre or per animal, within certain limits, the greater the net return.

The new year and the years to come hold great things for the thinking, progressive, business-like farmer. Prices promise to remain good for a long time, and fair profits seem certain for the man who farms right.

Let us, as our first New Year resolution, aim at putting our farms on a big-yielding, money-making basis. There is no surer way for making farm life more attractive and desirable and for keeping the boys and girls on the farms.

WOMEN KNOW JOY OF INDEPENDENCE



MRS. E. B. REPERT.
Federal Chairman Woman's Liberty Loan Committee.

Thrift and economy, championed by the womanhood of America, have won the struggle against greed and rapacity. Cannons and guns and men did their part on the field of battle but it was the savings of the men and women at home that put them there.

Out of the four-years tragedy has come the lesson of thrift. Not the niggardly hoarding of the miser, but the knowledge of the value of economy that produced the sage advice of Burns:

"Save money, not for to hide it in a hedge,
Nor for a train attendant;
But for the glorious privilege
Of being independent."

Women have always been the savers in the home, from necessity, but "the glorious privilege of being independent," gained from the fulfillment of a patriotic duty, has given them an incentive to economize and save for the sheer joy of saving.

A far-seeing government has provided us with a means of saving—Thrift Stamps, War Savings Certificates, Liberty Bonds—which, apart from their use in winning the war, have proved to be one of the greatest moral and material blessings ever devised.

There has been no letting down of effort by the women of the Eleventh Federal Reserve District because the Fourth Liberty Loan was put over successfully and war was declared ended soon after. It has ever been the part of woman to do quietly, but effectively, those duties requiring persistent effort, with a thought only for the final result. Patiently and steadily the officers of the Women's Liberty Loan Committees have been preparing the way for the next great demand, unchecked by the fact that bloodshed has ceased.

As chairman of the Woman's Liberty Loan Committee of the Eleventh Federal Reserve District, I ask every woman in the district to be true to the traditions of our sex. Through necessity we learned to save. We can now put to use the knowledge gained of independence through saving. We owe this duty to our children, our families, ourselves, and our country.

(MRS.) E. B. REPERT.



Your Government asks you very earnestly not to sell your Liberty Bonds unless you have to. To part with your Liberty Bonds means giving up your pledge of patriotism and citizenship, and handing your responsibilities and privileges over to some one else. Liberty Bonds will be worth much more money presently and it is good business to hold them.

If you must sell, get the full market price. Go to a responsible banker and let him give you information and advice. Do not sell to just anyone, who may not treat you fairly.

OLD AND NEW BATTLE NAMES

Hard to Bestow Appropriate Appellations Upon Conflicts Having Wide Fronts.

There seems to have been little trouble in the past in naming battles, although even Waterloo is called Quatre Bras by the French. But on the whole a name seems to have attached itself to a battle quite naturally. The Nile and Trafalgar.

But in the great war, where a battle extended over weeks of time over a forty-mile front, including many villages, and sometimes several objectives in the shape of big towns, the difficulty of naming a battle with a name that is universally recognized is extreme.

The names which have actually settled down completely and taken their places in history are the battle of the Marne, the two battles of Ypres, the battle of Verdun, the battle of the Somme, the battle of Jutland, the battle of the Somme, and that seems almost all.

The battles of the later phases of the war have hardly settled down to a name yet. Probably the battle in which the Vimy ridge was stormed will be known as Arras; but the battle of Messines will probably be a sticker, just as the Chemin des Dames will live in French annals for all times.

Perhaps the great battle which at the time seemed disastrous to British arms, commencing on March 21, 1918, will go down to history as the battle of Amiens, while the battle of Cambrai may stand for all that heroic recovery which brought the British to their final victory.

GOT WEARY OF "FLU" TALK

Visitor to Indianapolis Very Much Fed Up With Conversation Relating to the Epidemic.

L. B. Andrus of Grand Rapids, Mich., chief of the Merchants Heat and Light company, is laboring under the impression that some "Hoosier jinx" was trailing him Wednesday evening.

While taking dinner at a hotel he was surrounded by delegates to the casket manufacturers' convention. After hearing them discuss their business, which discussion naturally had many references to the influenza epidemic, he concluded it was no place for him.

As the evening rolled on, he began debating with himself the question whether the epidemic was going to get him, so he decided to take a Turkish bath. He had only been there a short time when a sick-looking individual came in, and in a conversation with Mr. Andrus said that he had only recently got over a severe case of the influenza, and he had been advised that a Turkish bath would get the poison out of his system and assist him to recover more rapidly.

When he was talking with this man, another man came in sneezing and coughing and inquired of Mr. Andrus whether he thought a Turkish bath would prevent a fellow from getting a bad case of the influenza.

By this time Andrus said to the attendant: "Get me out of here as quickly as possible. I have given about as much time as I care to presiding at the flu conference in Indianapolis."—Indianapolis News.

President to Get Rare Book.

An ancient book has been sent to President Wilson by Postmaster General Terrell of Florence who is a collector of rare manuscripts. The book is a rare edition of the life of Christopher Columbus and was written by Fernandez, a son of the discoverer of America, and was published at Venice in 1571. Plans had been made to have the book presented to President Wilson on Columbus day.

Wonder What Poe Got for It.

Quite a while ago author, Edgar Allan Poe, contributed a story to Graham's Library of Fiction, No. 1. But it hardly occurred to him that some day a collector would pick up an old copy of that periodical for 25 cents and presently sell it to somebody else for \$1,000. Probably it is just as well that it did not, for the knowledge might have disconcerted him with his own modest emolument for writing a classic.

\$216 for a Thackeray Letter.

A sale of autographs and manuscripts was held at New York recently. Charles Scribner's Sons paid the top price, \$216, for catalogue No. 234, a letter of William M. Thackeray to John Oxenford, asking him to come to a dinner in celebration of the completion of "Vanity Fair." The total for the sale was \$2,752.45.

The Lives of a Cat.

A mother had two sons, one in France, the other attending a university near home. The son in France was wounded and naturally the mother felt grieved over the incident, and being of an excitable nature, telephoned her other son: "John, come home at once. Ted is at the front being killed every minute."

Unreadable Signatures.

General Pershing recently gave orders that the typewriter signature is required hereafter on all official orders and endorsements by American military men in France because of the fact so many officers write their names "so blindly" that it is difficult to make them out. General Pershing purposes to waste no time in deciphering written signatures.

THIS MAN WANTS TO TALK TO YOU



FRANK M. SMITH
Federal Director War Loans and Savings

Suppose you were attacked by a gang of ruffians who nearly killed you, and you were saved by some plucky doctor who himself was injured in the struggle, but who stayed by you night and day until you recovered.

Would you refuse to pay the doctor's bill on the ground that the danger was now past and that paying for past services was an unpleasant task, anyhow?

You would not. You would regard it as a sacred duty to liquidate that debt.

I see no difference between the situation described and the position of every man, woman and child in this country today. At the cost of life and magnificent effort we have been saved by our fighting men and our intelligent, hard-working statesmen from something quite as bad as death.

A Most Solemn Obligation

rests upon us to pay the bill. There is so much owing that we can never repay that there should not be heard one murmur about settling the financial part of the obligation.

I do not believe that there will be any difficulty. The American people are just people who pay their debts, they are grateful and generous people.

The Government paid out the stupendous sum of Two Billion and Sixty Million Dollars in war expenses during the month of December alone and the expense will go on for many months to come. Of course the Government was borrowing all this money from the banks, and must soon pay it back—and, of course, we must find that money.

We Are Going to Do It

by buying Thrift Stamps, Savings Certificates and Liberty Bonds on a scale bigger than ever before. We are going to economize and save, not because we are afraid of the Hun getting his foot on our neck, but because we are grateful to Almighty God, our sainted dead, the boys who are coming back with victory in their hands, to our beloved President and his helpers, to all of whom is due the credit for the glorious result.

We Are Going to Save, Too.

because we have found out that it is just the grandest thing in the world for us, mentally and physically. We are going to save because it brings us a solid satisfaction and peace of mind.

The fighting has ceased, the bands do not play or the flags wave now, but the earnest purpose behind our effort in the great world war remains yet to be accomplished. Much effort and billions of dollars have yet to be spent before this objective is attained. Millions of lives, the agony and sweat of countless thousands has been the cost of victory. It is for us to see that this priceless purchase is not thrown away. In such a task we cannot, dare not, do less than our very best.

FRANK M. SMITH.

OVER-EATING

is the root of nearly all digestive evils. If your digestion is weak or out of kilter, better eat less and use

KI-MOIDS

the new aid to better digestion. Pleasant to take—effective. Let Ki-moids help straighten out your digestive troubles.

MADE BY SCOTT & BOWNE
MAKERS OF SCOTT'S EMULSION

BREEDEN'S RHEUMATIC COMPOUND

FOR RHEUMATISM
SOLD EVERYWHERE

For Sale by Sanders & Ingram

EDUCATION AND THE PUMPKIN

Eastern Writer Points Out Wherein the Two Have Some Strong Points of Similarity.

At one of our city vegetable marts one day a farmer displayed with commendable pride a huge pumpkin of alluring aspect, with the statement that it grew "full twenty feet from the stalk," remarks Rochester Post-Express. This habit of wandering in tortuous uselessness to a long distance from the source of production before the fruit of the vine is produced is long known of the pumpkin.

It would not be amiss for our educators to consider the pumpkin vine; unquestionably some of them have in earlier days, but whether with a view to its close analogy to educational processes is uncertain. Perhaps it is too much to say that the best fruit of the educational vine is produced from its original source; that what comes of schooling is something quite different from the apparent result at the source; that the best things a man or woman does are very different from the particular, or nonparticularized thing, he or she is directly taught to do. We are turning to the business of making our schools show quick fruitage working ability.

is at least a fair hazard to that the pupils who become "pumpkins" will often as not be products known a long way from the special process of education that extreme vocationalists advise.

COLOGNE'S UPS AND DOWNS

Important German City of the Present Has Had Its Periods of Dire Adversity.

During the Middle Ages Cologne was a place of great trade; the weavers, the goldsmiths, and the armorers of the city were famous the world over; while its merchants had houses in London, and the city itself was accorded a chief place in the Hanseatic league. Decay set in with the dawn of the Reformation, and the place owed its downfall to its intolerance. Thus, its university, which in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries had a great reputation, began at once to decline. This policy dealt severe blows at the prosperity of the town, and when, in 1734, Cologne was occupied by the French, it was a poor and decayed city of some 40,000 inhabitants, of which only 6,000 possessed civil rights. Since 1815, however, when it was finally assigned to Prussia, Cologne has continued to prosper, until today it is one of the most important cities of Germany, with a population of nearly half a million.

Vehicle Market in Siam.

Owing to the low-lying and often inundated plains of southern Siam, in which most of the rice farming is done and in which road making is difficult, and also the fact that transportation is easily afforded by the numerous canals which traverse the country in every direction, there is not likely to be any extended demand for farm wagons or other vehicles for the use of the Siamese farmer. It seems, however, that considerable attention will be given to road making in Siam's principal cities, notably in Bangkok, and that therefore a line of municipal vehicles will be needed in the near future.

Didn't Come Off.

In the belfry of a little church in France the Germans placed a bomb connected with wires to the monstrance on the altar. The idea was that when the monstrance was moved the resultant explosion would bring the church down upon the heads of the worshippers. Fortunately Marshal Foch's little paragraph in his armistice terms, to wit, that German commanders would be held personally responsible for all damage done by infernal machines, prevented this characteristically Teutonic performance from coming off.—Rochester Post-Express.

Rescued by Mother-in-Law.

William Olive of Bridgewater, after putting a new roof on a dog house in his yard, was afraid the dog would get out on the nails sticking through, and crawled in to clinch them on the inside. When he had finished the job he found that his coat was caught on a nail and he couldn't get out. He made all the noise he could, and finally, after a long while, his mother-in-law heard him.—Boston Globe.

Watch the expiration
date on the name label
on your Messenger. All
papers stopped when the
subscription expires.

Letters From France

Work of The Red Cross of America

The work of the American Red Cross is literally invaluable. Much has been written and said the past four years of this organization, at present, of such dimensions and motive power now functioning as one had never imagined possible.

The Red Cross as an organization has long been in existence, but not until America stepped in beside the allies in their struggle for freedom, was it appreciated to the fullest extent.

Shortly after we entered the world war, hundreds of thousands were swept up in the great wave of the draft—the most tremendous hosting of manhood the world has ever seen. The hour was at hand for organization in the full sense of the word and the leaders of the Red Cross lost no time in discussions. Red Cross drives were launched; posters were to be seen everywhere; papers and magazines were devoted to articles and advertisements; Red Cross Chapters and societies were organized in every city, village and community, from Maine to California.

The American people were not long in grasping the opportunity of having the privilege, presented to them by the Red Cross, of having in the greatest of world's events a share, in which, I believe, every American takes honest pride. Those mothers and loved ones who could not go with the boys to the battle fields, found in the Red Cross a medium and agency whereby, they could give some tangible expression to their sympathy for France and their gratitude for the military and political aid which France afforded to our own struggling young republic far back in the eighteenth century.

Every effort has been put forth by the workers of the Red Cross to live up to its purpose, which was, "To create a world of equal opportunities for the comfort and happiness of all."

Being one of them, I do not hesitate in saying that the attitude of every man of the 89th Aero Squadron toward the Red Cross, is one of the most enthusiastic appreciations. I have never heard one word of criticism spoken by an American soldier.

Enroute from Kelley Field, Texas to Mineola, New York, cigarettes, tobacco, fruits and cookies were waiting for us at various points. Later, while awaiting orders to sail, we were given sweaters, gloves and helmets, which had been knitted by the white-haired grand-mothers down to the six or seven year-old school girl, and many of us still have those same sweaters, and have given them one winter's wear in "Sunny France." We have not forgotten how we enjoyed those cups of hot coffee at number of stations on our journey thru England and France—neither have we forgotten those gifts of cigarettes and tobacco while at Colombey-Les-Bolles, when a cigarette stub loomed up like a thousand dollars in new money, nor those heavy wool socks that played an important part in seeing us through the beautiful mud.

The work of the American Red Cross, consisting of several different departments, has always been where it was needed worst. Compared with the Spanish-American war, of only twenty years ago, we are ten times better cared for in regard to our bodily well-being; ten times better protected from the hazard of disease—which in previous, has been about as deadly as bullets. True, the Medical Department of the U. S. Army has a higher standard of efficiency, but without the aid of the American Red Cross this record could never have been attained.

When we think of the American Red Cross of today and its magnificent contributions to the great victory, and the spirit in which the work and gifts of this organization has been distributed, which is always, "Gift of the American people through the American Red Cross," we think not only of the American Red Cross as an organization like that of the Y. M. C. A., but of the American people who responded so quickly to the call.

We, as American soldiers, owe a debt of gratitude to those who put their all into this great work for humanity. There are no words to express our appreciation for the many things made possible by The American Red Cross—First, Last and Always. SER. C. W. HANDLEY, M. D. 89th. Aero Squadron, France

Monroe Bridges has returned from a stay in allas.

Sam Ford of Dallas, was here Saturday. One bar, and the funeral of his father. A notice to the employees of the ins.

Clyde Handley of Bridgeport Writes

Somewhere in France, Dec. 11, 1918.
Mrs. R. D. Handley,
Bridgeport, Texas.

My Dear Mother:—
I was called on to write an article of appreciation in memory of the American Red Cross for "The Zoomer," a history of the 89th Aero Squadron, which will be ready for publication in a few months time. To have given the full detail of the things accomplished by this organization would have taken months.

The rumors of our speedy return to the states have just about all died down. Of course it was quite natural for every American soldier to think he was the first to go home, and you can't imagine the nature of the rumors and the number of them that can originate in a post of this size. Everything is going on just as it was before the armistice was signed a month ago, today, and everything points to a second Xmas for us in France.

Think I wrote you of my being recommended for sergeant First class examination. Will go before the examiners' board tomorrow. Only have seventeen subjects to be examined, so you can imagine just how I have been studying for the past few days. If I am in the service four months longer I expect to make the M. H. S. (Master Hospital Sergeant.)

I expect to spend a few days in Paris before Xmas, so if you receive a check for some odd amount of dollars, don't be surprised. Last month one of our lieutenants sent a cablegram to his father that read like this, "Send one hundred dollars. With love, Ted." The old man replied, "One hundred dollars cabled today. Why the love?"

Have work to do, so will call this off. Am enjoying a good health and always happy. With love and best wishes to all. CLYDE.

Henry Madden Has Been Sent to 80 Div.

Somewhere in France, Dec. 20, 1918.

Mrs. W. C. Batdorf,
Decatur, Texas.

My Dear Sister:—
I hope this letter finds you all well. I am fine and dandy and sure would like to be back home with you all and don't think that I will have to stay much longer. Lois, I received six letters from you today and was sure glad to hear from you, for you always tell me all of the news. I also received the cigarettes all O. K. I sure was proud of all you sent to me.

I couldn't get back to Captain Lillard's company after I left the hospital. I was put in Co. A, 320th Infantry, 80 Division. Jack Holmes and I are together and if I come back with this division we will be sent to Richmond, Va., but sure hope I will get to come back with the 36 division, for I had so much rather come to Fort Worth, of course. We are in a little old town and don't know when we will leave, but hope that it will be soon, for it rains here every day, although, it is not cold here.

I am so blue that I can't write, so will quit. With lots of love to you all, Your brother, HENRY.

W. L. Adams Writes Parents

Somewhere in France, Dec. 17, 1918.

Mr. and Mrs. Z. S. Adams,
Decatur, Texas.

Dear Father and Mother:—

I will write you all a few lines to let you know that I am well and all O. K. Hope this will find you all well and enjoying life. I have gotten several letters from you all lately, you know that I was more than glad to get them. I got one two days ago that was written in September. Is everyone getting ready to have a big time Xmas? I don't know where I will spend it for sure, but think that it will be here in Chatillon-Sur-Seine.

I don't have any idea when I will come home, it might be soon, and again it might be some time.

Have any of the boys in the training camps at home been discharged yet? I read in the paper where they were to be let loose soon, but haven't seen any more about it.

I guess you are still having plenty of rain, aren't you? It hasn't been so very cold here, for I don't know when it will quit raining, however, today has been a pretty one.

Well, I will close for this time, and am hoping to hear from you all soon, with much love and best wishes to you all. W. L. ADAMS.

Letter Received from Claude Almonroad

Somewhere in France, Dec. 8, 1918.

My Dear Mother:—

How are you all by this time? I suppose you are rejoicing that the war is over. We hope to be on our way home soon, and wish I could get home in time to spend Christmas.

We are now one hundred and seventy-four kilometers (106 miles) southeast of Paris in the state of Aube. I think we have traveled all over north-eastern France and don't think we were riding in a Pullman all this time, for we didn't, excepting a few rides in trucks. It was hike, hike, hike and then some more hiking, and then part of the time fighting. We sure have had some wonderful experiences over here, and some that I do not care to go through again.

I have been getting your letters all of the time. Answer soon, Your son, CLAUDE ALMONROAD.

REPORT OF CONDITION OF THE First State Bank

AT PARADISE, TEXAS.
At close of business, Dec. 31, 1918.

RESOURCES	
Loans and discounts, personal or collateral	46,876 31
Loans, real estate	887 50
Overdrafts	519 47
Bonds and stocks	2,695 00
Real estate (b'n'g house)	3,500 00
W. S. Stamps	527 82
Furniture and fixtures	500 00
Due from approved reserve agents, net	15,700 00
Cash items	223 74
Currency	5,396 00
Specie	2,199 10
Interest and assessment Depositors' g'n'ty fund	814 37
Cash collections	313 25
TOTAL	80,153 44

LIABILITIES	
Capital stock paid in	10,000 00
Surplus fund	10,000 00
Undivided profits, net	8 75
Individual deposits, subject to check	56,119 60
Time certificates of deposit	2,772 00
Cashier's checks	1,045 01
Reserve for taxes	208 08
TOTAL	80,153 44

State of Texas, county of Wise, we Guinn Williams, as president and H. T. Bridges, as cashier of said bank, each of us, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of our knowledge and belief.—GUINN WILLIAMS, President, H. T. BRIDGES, Cashier.

CORRECT—Attest: S. B. PEARSON, J. H. GOLAZ, O. L. HARTSELL, Directors.

Subscribed and sworn to before me on this, the 15 day of January, 1919.—T. L. TAYLOR, Notary Public, Wise county, Texas.

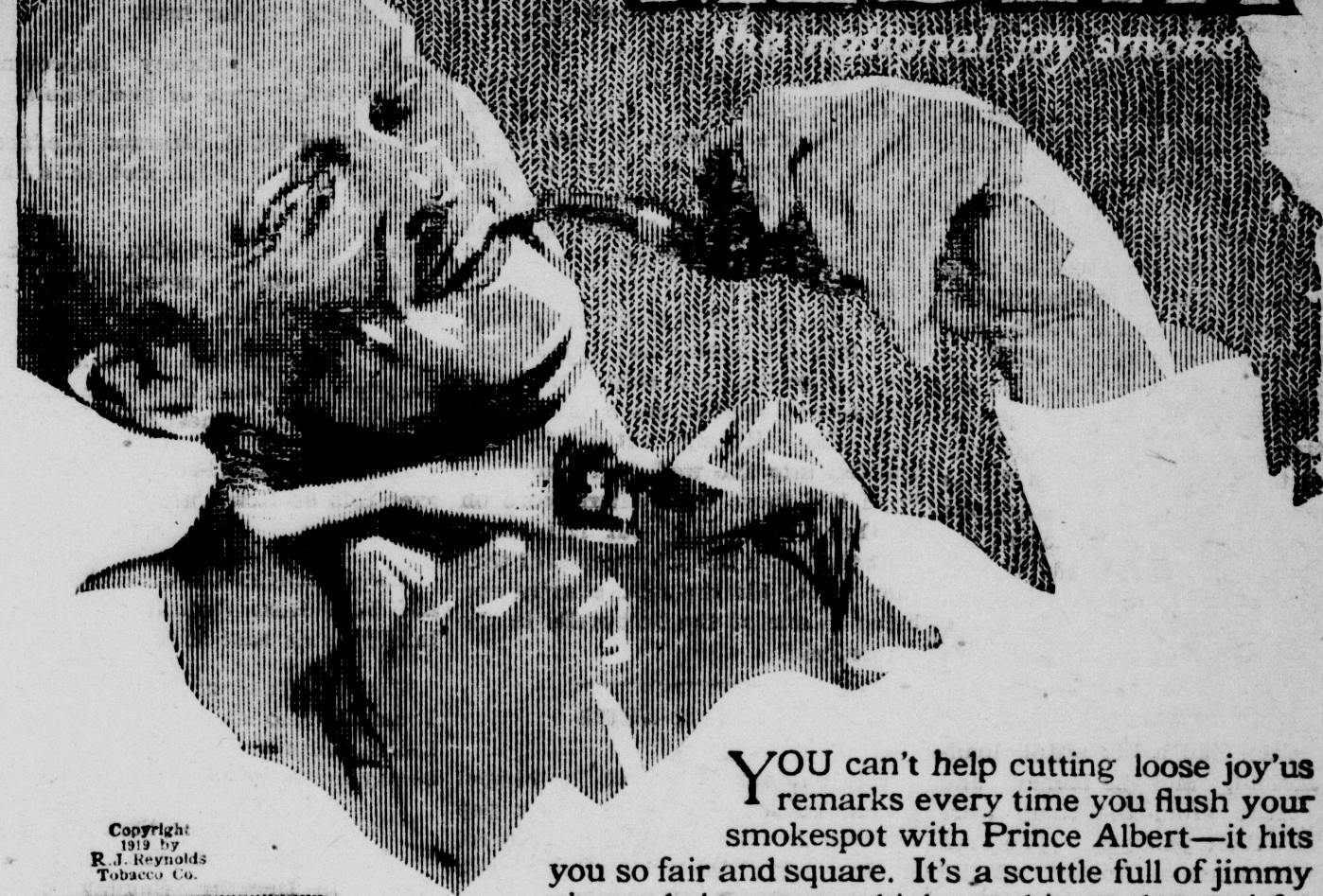
SHERIFF'S SALE

The state of Texas, county of Wise By virtue of a certain order of sale, issued out of the honorable district court of Wise county, on the 26 day of November, 1918, by W. V. Cunningham, district clerk of Wise county against Mrs. E. F. Laird, for the sum of Thirteen and 22-100 (\$13.22) dollars and costs of suit, in cause No. 1570 in said court, styled City of Decatur versus Mrs. E. F. Laird and placed in my hands for service, I, W. M. Malone, as sheriff of Wise county, Texas, did, on the 14 day of January, 1919, levy on certain real estate, situated in Wise county, described as follows, to-wit: Lot No. 1, Block No. 12, Range D of the Devereux addition to the city of Decatur Texas. Block No. 69 of the Tarlton addition to the city of Decatur, Texas, and levied upon as the property of said Mrs. E. F. Laird, and on Tuesday, the 4th day of March, 1919, at the court house door of Wise county, in the city of Decatur, Texas, between the hours of ten a. m. and four p. m. I will sell said real estate at public vendue, for cash to the highest bidder, as the property of said Mrs. E. F. Laird by virtue of said levy and said order of sale. And in compliance of law, I give this notice by publication, in the English language, once a week for three consecutive weeks immediately preceding said day of sale, in the Wise County Messenger, a newspaper published in Wise county.

Witness my hand, this 14 day of January, 1919.—W. M. MALONE, Sheriff of Wise County, Texas. By Geo. T. Gage, Deputy. (dJan-31)

Com. W. B. Splawn announces that all things are in readiness for beginning work on the Meridian road just as soon as weather conditions will permit.

PRINCE ALBERT



Copyright 1918 by R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Co.



YOU can't help cutting loose joy's remarks every time you flush your smokespot with Prince Albert—it hits you so fair and square. It's a scuttle full of jimmy pipe and cigarette makin's sunshine and as satisfying as it is delightful every hour of the twenty-four!

It's never too late to hop into the Prince Albert pleasure-pasture! For, P. A. is trigger-ready to give you more tobacco fun than you ever had in your smokecareer. That's because it has the quality.

Quick as you know Prince Albert you'll write it down that P. A. did not bite your tongue or parch your throat. And, it never will! For, our exclusive patented process cuts out bite and parch. Try it for what ails your tongue!

Toppy red bags, tidy red tins, handsome pound and half pound tin humidors—and that clever, practical pound crystal glass humidor with sponge moistener top that keeps the tobacco in such perfect condition.

R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company, Winston-Salem, N. C.

AT THE BAPTIST CHURCH

There were 204 in Sunday school and more than \$70.00 from the classes for Buckner Orphans' Home. The congregation was very large at the morning service and the house was crowded at night. The pastor preached his fifth sermon from Phil. at the morning hour and on "The Home" at night. Mr. North and Miss Francis Roberts sang to the delight of all. All services next Sunday as usual. Let the members of the Sunday school be on time. The pastor will preach again on Paul's letter to the Philippians at the morning service and on a practical and popular theme at night, which will be of interest to all. Special music will be provided and large crowds are expected. You are always welcome. HARLAN J. MATTHEWS, Pastor.

FRUIT TREES AT A BARGAIN

I have on hand \$300 worth choice selection of fruit trees. About 600 Early Wheelers in the lot. I will sell at REDUCED PRICES. Come quick while they last. Leave word or telephone Gunn's drug store, J. C. DIXON, Sales Agent for Durant Nursery Co., Decatur, Texas.

FREE MAP & PHOTOGRAPH BURKBURNETT, TEXAS

Showing world's wonder oil field sent absolutely free upon request. Ask for it today.

BROWN-WORTH OIL CO.
No. 1015½ Main St. Ft. Worth, Tex.

Hundreds of Thousands of WEBSTER'S NEW INTERNATIONAL

DICTIONARIES are in use by business men, engineers, bankers, judges, architects, physicians, farmers, teachers, librarians, clergymen, by successful men and women the world over.

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Regular and India-Paper Editions.

Write for specimen pages, illustrations, etc. Free, a set of Pocket Maps if you name this page.

G. & C. MERRIAM CO., Springfield, Mass.

The First Xylophone

Once upon a time Mendelssohn heard a musical instrument at which he greatly marvelled. He thought it merely a toy—"a few sticks lying on straw, and struck with other sticks," said Mendelssohn, describing it. "Yet," he had to add, "its tone was sweet and bell-like." It was known then as a straw-fiddle, this little toy instrument that musicians laughed at in derision.

Now you call it a xylophone—unique little agile athlete among makers of music.

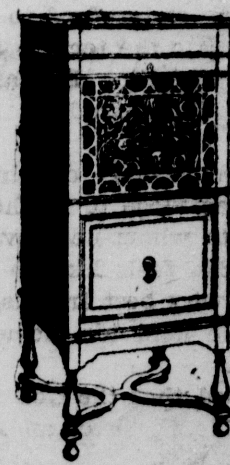
The RE-CREATED music of the xylophone—the modern xylophone—that no one now dares deride, you can have in your own home if you own

The NEW EDISON

"The Phonograph with a Soul"

The deinty, trilling Mocking Bird, the thunder of Cavalry in von Suppe's great overture, the triumphant strains of the masterful overture from "William Tell"—these and many others are best suited to the peculiar talents of the xylophone. The greatest, most skillful players of the modern xylophone have played them for The New Edison. And in tones you cannot distinguish from the original, The New Edison will RE-CREATE them for you, at your pleasure.

Ask us to RE-CREATE for you the xylophone selections of George Hamilton Green, Charles Daab or Lou Chihra Frisco.



Decatur Drug Co.

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Place Of Fertilizers In Southern Agriculture

Farmer-Banker Discusses Real Value of Fertilizers Out of His Years of Experience, Observation and Study—Timely Topic Relating to Vital Southern Problem—Extracts From an Address.

Bright Williamson, Darlington, S. C.

Agriculture is the bed rock and foundation upon which every other industry must stand or fall. All the people prosper or fail to prosper according to the abundance of the harvest of the soil, and upon agriculture depends the prosperity and happiness of the world.

Better methods of agriculture include the use of modern implements, modern cultivation and soil improvement. This brings us directly to the importance of the fertilizer industry as a means of improving our soils. Fertilizers are absolutely essential in order to increase the fertility of the soil. They have a direct effect upon agricultural production and through the products of agriculture a direct effect upon all other industries.

Anything which contributes to an increase in our agricultural production, contributes to the welfare, comfort and prosperity of our people as a whole; and this brings us directly to the consideration of the importance of the fertilizer industry in relation to other lines of business.

Fertilizers Necessary in South

The very nature of our soil, climate and rainfall makes it impossible to farm successfully without regularly feeding our crops from artificial sources with at least two of the several principal elements entering into the composition and development of plant life. Without fertilizers much of the best producing cotton lands in the South would become unproductive and farming would be unprofitable. In many states, except in a few localities, soil is no more capable of producing without being fertilized than stock is capable of performing work without being fed. Our lands must be fed just as we feed the stock that work them or they will become too poor to even pay the cost and expense of cultivation.

Transformed Sections

Large sections of land in various parts of the South Atlantic States, forty or fifty years ago, required four or five acres to produce one bale of cotton, which now, by intelligent farming, made possible by the use of fertilizers, yield one bale to each acre, or the equivalent, of other crops. Poverty stricken sections of one or two generations ago have been transformed into populous and prosperous communities. Our ability to rebuild and make our lands more fertile has enabled people to live and settle in more desirable communities, and to enjoy advantages of better markets, schools, churches and social conditions. Better rural conditions have made the "back to the farm" movement not only a possibility, but a reality.

Prosperity Due to Fertilizers

Whatever may be the direct benefit, it is obvious from a study of the situation that the present prosperity and greater population in South Carolina is due more largely to the use of commercial fertilizers than to any other cause, because in South Carolina fertilizers are absolutely necessary to profitable agriculture, upon which most of our business and other industries depend. Had it not been for the use of commercial fertilizers South Carolina could not be considered an agricultural state.

Taking into consideration the cost of fertilizers, statistics will bear out the statement that the once worn out

and abandoned fields of South Carolina yield a greater profit per acre than the richer river lands, once the pride of the Southern cotton planter, or than the more fertile lands of Texas.

Land Values Increased

This statement is reflected in the fact that these same lands in parts of South Carolina are selling freely for more than \$100.00 per acre.

I have been dealing with the effect of the fertilizer industry and the use of fertilizers on agriculture, because, as I have said, the effects on business generally must result from the effect on agriculture, and it is obvious that they must be innumerable. The fertilizer business in the South is one of the most important, and concerns our prosperity more directly than any other industry, and in its effects no other industry so ramifies into other business or has a greater effect on the industries and business generally.

Helps Railroads and Manufacturers. Perhaps among the industries which are more particularly and directly benefited by the use of commercial fertilizers are the railroads and common carriers, which first bring fertilizers to the farmers, and in return transport the increased products of the farm to the ends of the earth; and finally when these products are sold, for a third time, the railroads are called upon to bring to the farmer his supplies of foreign and domestic products.

The use of fertilizer has made more spindles in the South, more oil mills, more live stock, more people and more commerce. The tobacco crop and our trucking industry, requiring intensive fertilization and plant food, would be practically unknown to us. Ships bring raw material from foreign shores in greater quantities and in return carry away more cotton and grain.

Cheapens Cost of Producing Crops. The commercial business is affected in even greater proportion than the farmer himself, and there is no farmer in the South who is not benefited by the judicious use of commercial fertilizer. Large crops give to the people a greater supply at a lower cost of production and at a lower price to the consumer, while on the other hand small crops not only increase the cost of production, but may increase in even greater proportion the price to the consumer. When harvests are abundant the consumer and producer alike share in the increased prosperity.

Other means of cheapening the cost of production can be used profitably only on a very large or on a very small scale, but fertilizers can be applied with practically the same success to the smallest as well as the largest undertaking from the individual plant in the flower pot to the thousand acre cotton field.

It was my pleasure some years ago to know many more manufacturers and dealers in fertilizers than I know at present, but I wish to testify to the high character and intelligence of those with whom I became associated.

The proper use of commercial fertilizer by the farmer is obviously of vital importance to the fertilizer industry as well as to the farmer, and it is a matter that should receive thought and careful consideration at all times by those who promote the industry.

Aim At Above-the-Average Yields In 1919

(From Progressive Farmer, Dec. 31.)

For the average Southern farmer, we cannot think of a better resolution for the New Year than one calling for better than average yields. Average yields, whatever the crop, mean, over a period of years, little more than a living wage. But as the individual farmer rises above the average, his net profits, nine times in ten, correspondingly rise. The man who raises cotton must see that our average of about one-third of a bale per acre can only mean poverty to the grower; the man who grows corn and oats at our average rate of 15 to 20 bushels per acre must see that there can be no profit in such yields; our peanut and tobacco farmers, our dairy and general livestock farmers must see that so long as they are content with a merely average yield per acre or per animal, just so long will they find the farming game unprofitable and unsatisfactory.

Good land, planted to good seeds and well fertilized and well tilled is the key to successful farming; for good land, plus good seed, fertilization and tillage, means high yields and good profits. In the new year, every farmer should aim at these; and in getting

them, it should be remembered that rather liberal expenditures are justifiable. For instance, when a bale of cotton with the seed is worth \$150, our average per acre yield of one-third of a bale is worth \$50; but when we increase this to two-thirds of a bale, worth \$100, we have a gross profit of \$50 with which to pay for the cost of the increase. Of course the cost of this increased yield, if the matter be gone about judiciously, will practically never be as much as \$50. More often than not, in fact, it will be \$25 or less, leaving a net profit of \$25 or more per acre. And the same rule will hold with other crops and livestock as well. The higher the yield per acre or per animal, within certain limits, the greater the net return.

The new year and the years to come hold great things for the thinking, progressive, business-like farmer. Prices promise to remain good for a long time, and fair profits seem certain for the man who farms right.

Let us, as our first New Year resolution, aim at putting our farms on a big-yielding, money-making basis. There is no surer way for making farm life more attractive and desirable and for keeping the boys and girls on the farms.

WOMEN KNOW JOY OF INDEPENDENCE



MRS. E. B. REPERT
Federal Chairman Woman's Liberty Loan Committee.

Thrift and economy, championed by the womanhood of America, have won the struggle against greed and rapacity. Cannons and guns and men did their part on the field of battle but it was the savings of the men and women at home that put them there.

Out of the four-years tragedy has come the lesson of thrift. Not the niggardly hoarding of the miser, but the knowledge of the value of economy that produced the sage advice of Burns:

"Save money, not for to hide it in a hedge,
Nor for a train attendant;
But for the glorious privilege
Of being independent."

Women have always been the savers in the home, from necessity, but "the glorious privilege of being independent," gained from the fulfillment of a patriotic duty, has given them an incentive to economize and save for the sheer joy of saving.

A far-seeing government has provided us with a means of saving—Thrift Stamps, War Savings Certificates, Liberty Bonds—which, apart from their use in winning the war, have proved to be one of the greatest moral and material blessings ever devised.

There has been no letting down of effort by the women of the Eleventh Federal Reserve District because the Fourth Liberty Loan was put over successfully and war was declared ended soon after. It has ever been the part of woman to do quietly, but effectively, those duties requiring persistent effort, with a thought only for the final result. Patiently and steadily the officers of the Women's Liberty Loan Committees have been preparing the way for the next great demand, unchecked by the fact that bloodshed has ceased.

As chairman of the Woman's Liberty Loan Committee of the Eleventh Federal Reserve District, I ask every woman in the district to be true to the traditions of our sex. Through necessity we learned to save. We can now put to use the knowledge gained of independence through saving. We owe this duty to our children, our families, ourselves, and our country.

(MRS.) E. B. REPERT.



Your Government asks you very earnestly not to sell your Liberty Bonds unless you have to. To part with your Liberty Bonds means giving up your pledge of patriotism and citizenship, and handing your responsibilities and privileges over to some one else. Liberty Bonds will be worth much more money presently and it is good business to hold them.

If you must sell, get the full market price. Go to a responsible banker and let him give you information and advice. Do not sell to just anyone, who may not treat you fairly.

OLD AND NEW BATTLE NAMES

Hard to Bestow Appropriate Appellations Upon Conflicts Having Wide Fronts.

There seems to have been little trouble in the past in naming battles, although even Waterloo is called Quatre Bras by the French. But on the whole a name seems to have attached itself to a battle quite naturally, like Blenheim, Talavera, Jena, Leipzig, the Nile and Trafalgar.

But in the great war, where a battle extended over weeks of time over a forty-mile front, including many villages, and sometimes several objectives in the shape of big towns, the difficulty of naming a battle with a name that is universally recognized is extreme.

The names which have actually settled down completely and taken their places in history are the battle of the Marne, the two battles of Ypres, the battle of Verdun, the battle of the Somme, the battle of Jutland, the battle of the Somme, and that seems almost all.

The battles of the later phases of the war have hardly settled down to a name yet. Probably the battle in which the Vimy ridge was stormed will be known as Arras; but the battle of Messines will probably be a sticker, just as the Chemin des Dames will live in French annals for all times.

Perhaps the great battle which at the time seemed disastrous to British arms, commencing on March 21, 1918, will go down to history as the battle of Amiens, while the battle of Cambrai may stand for all that heroic recovery which brought the British to their final victory.

GOT WEARY OF "FLU" TALK

Visitor to Indianapolis Very Much Fed Up With Conversation Relating to the Epidemic.

L. B. Andrus of Grand Rapids, Mich., chief of the Merchants Heat and Light company, is laboring under the impression that some "Hoosier jinx" was trailing him Wednesday evening.

While taking dinner at a hotel he was surrounded by delegates to the casket manufacturers' convention. After hearing them discuss their business, which discussion naturally had many references to the influenza epidemic, he concluded it was no place for him.

As the evening rolled on, he began debating with himself the question whether the epidemic was going to get him, so he decided to take a Turkish bath. He had only been there a short time when a sick-looking individual came in, and in a conversation with Mr. Andrus said that he had only recently got over a severe case of the influenza, and he had been advised that a Turkish bath would get the poison out of his system and assist him to recover more rapidly.

When he was talking with this man, another man came in sneezing and coughing and inquired of Mr. Andrus whether he thought a Turkish bath would prevent a fellow from getting a bad case of the influenza.

By this time Andrus said to the attendant: "Get me out of here as quickly as possible. I have given about as much time as I care to presiding at the conference in Indianapolis."—Indianapolis News.

President to Get Rare Book. An ancient book has been sent to President Wilson by Postmaster General Tordil of Florence who is a collector of rare manuscripts. The book is a rare edition of the life of Christopher Columbus and was written by Fernandez, a son of the discoverer of America, and was published at Venice in 1571. Plans had been made to have the book presented to President Wilson on Columbus day.

Wonder What Poe Got for It. Quite a while ago an author, Edgar Allan Poe, contributed a story to Graham's Library of Fiction, No. 1. But it hardly occurred to him that some day a collector would pick up an old copy of that periodical for 25 cents and presently sell it to somebody else for \$1,000. Probably it is just as well that it did not, for the knowledge might have disconcerted him with his own modest emolument for writing a classic.

\$216 for a Thackeray Letter.

A sale of autographs and manuscripts was held at New York recently. Charles Scribner's Sons paid the top price, \$216, for catalogue No. 234, a letter of William M. Thackeray to John Oxenford, asking him to come to a dinner in celebration of the completion of "Vanity Fair." The total for the sale was \$2,752.45.

The Lives of a Cat.

A mother had two sons, one in France, the other attending a university near home. The son in France was wounded and naturally the mother felt grieved over the incident, and being of an excitable nature, telephoned her other son: "John, come home at once. Ted is at the front being killed every minute."

Unreadable Signatures.

General Pershing recently gave orders that the typewriter signature is required hereafter on all official orders and endorsements by American military men in France because of the fact so many officers write their names "so blindly that it is difficult to make them out." General Pershing purposes to waste no time in deciphering written signatures.

THIS MAN WANTS TO TALK TO YOU



FRANK M. SMITH
Federal Director War Loans and Savings

Suppose you were attacked by a gang of ruffians who nearly killed you, and you were saved by some plucky doctor who himself was injured in the struggle, but who stayed by you night and day until you recovered.

Would you refuse to pay the doctor's bill on the ground that the danger was now past and that paying for past services was an unpleasant task, anyhow?

You would not. You would regard it as a sacred duty to liquidate that debt.

I see no difference between the situation described and the position of every man, woman and child in this country today. At the cost of life and magnificent effort we have been saved by our fighting men and our intelligent, hard-working statesmen from something quite as bad as death.

A Most Solemn Obligation

rests upon us to pay the bill. There is so much owing that we can never repay that there should not be heard one murmur about settling the financial part of the obligation.

I do not believe that there will be any difficulty. The American people are just people who pay their debts, they are grateful and generous people.

The Government paid out the stupendous sum of Two Billion and Sixty Million Dollars in war expenses during the month of December alone and the expense will go on for many months to come. Of course the Government was borrowing all this money from the banks, and must soon pay it back—and, of course, we must find that money.

We Are Going to Do It

by buying Thrift Stamps, Savings Certificates and Liberty Bonds on a scale bigger than ever before. We are going to economize and save, not because we are afraid of the Hun getting his foot on our neck, but because we are grateful to Almighty God, our sainted dead, the boys who are coming back with victory in their hands, to our beloved President and his helpers, to all of whom is due the credit for the glorious result.

We Are Going to Save, Too,

because we have found out that it is just the grandest thing in the world for us, mentally and physically. We are going to save because it brings us a solid satisfaction and peace of mind.

The fighting has ceased, the bands do not play or the flags wave now, but the earnest purpose behind our effort in the great world war remains yet to be accomplished. Much effort and billions of dollars have yet to be spent before this objective is attained. Millions of lives, the agony and sweat of countless thousands has been the cost of victory. It is for us to see that this priceless purchase is not thrown away. In such a task we cannot, dare not, do less than our very best.

FRANK M. SMITH.

OVER-EATING

is the root of nearly all digestive evils. If your digestion is weak or out of kilter, better eat less and use

KI-MOIDS

the new aid to better digestion. Pleasant to take—effective. Let Ki-moids help straighten out your digestive troubles.

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MAKERS OF SCOTT'S EMULSION

BREEDEN'S RHEUMATIC COMPOUND

FOR RHEUMATISM
SOLD EVERYWHERE

For Sale by Sanders & Ingram

EDUCATION AND THE PUMPKIN

Eastern Writer Points Out Wherein the Two Have Some Strong Points of Similarity.

At one of our city vegetable marts one day a farmer displayed with commendable pride a huge pumpkin of alluring aspect, with the statement that it grew "full twenty feet from the stalk," remarks Rochester Post-Express. This habit of wandering in tortuous uselessness to a long distance from the source of production before the fruit of the vine is produced is long known of the pumpkin.

It would not be amiss for our educators to consider the pumpkin vine; unquestionably some of them have in earlier days, but whether with a view to its close analogy to educational processes is uncertain. Perhaps it is too much to say that the best fruit of the educational vine is produced from its original source; that what comes of schooling is something quite different from the apparent result at the source; that the best things a man or woman does are very different from the particular, or nonparticularized thing, he or she is directly taught to do. We are turning to the business of making our schools show quick fruitage of working ability.

But it is at least a fair hazard to opine that the pupils who become "some pumpkins" will often as not be products known a long way from the special process of education that extreme vocationalists advise.

COLOGNE'S UPS AND DOWNS

Important German City of the Present Has Had Its Periods of Dire Adversity.

During the Middle Ages Cologne was a place of great trade; the weavers, the goldsmiths, and the armors of the city were famous the world over; while its merchants had houses in London, and the city itself was accorded a chief place in the Hanseatic league. Decay set in with the dawn of the Reformation, and the place owed its downfall to its intolerance. Thus, its university, which in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries had a great reputation, began at once to decline. This policy dealt severe blows at the prosperity of the town, and when, in 1734, Cologne was occupied by the French, it was a poor and decayed city of some 40,000 inhabitants, of which only 6,000 possessed civil rights. Since 1815, however, when it was finally assigned to Prussia, Cologne has continued to prosper, until today it is one of the most important cities of Germany, with a population of nearly half a million.

Vehicle Market in Siam.

Owing to the low-lying and often inundated plains of southern Siam, in which most of the rice farming is done and in which road making is difficult, and also the fact that transportation is easily afforded by the numerous canals which traverse the country in every direction, there is not likely to be any extended demand for farm wagons or other vehicles for the use of the Siamese farmer. It seems, however, that considerable attention will be given to road making in Siam's principal cities, notably in Bangkok, and that therefore a time of municipal vehicles will be needed in the near future.

Didn't Come Off.

In the belfry of a little church in France the Germans placed a bomb connected with wires to the monstrance on the altar. The idea was that when the monstrance was moved the resultant explosion would bring the church down upon the heads of the worshippers. Fortunately Marshal Foch's little paragraph in his armistice terms, to wit, that German commanders would be held personally responsible for all damage done by infernal machines, prevented this characteristically Teuton performance from coming off.—Rochester Post-Express.

Rescued by Mother-in-Law.

William Olive of Bridgewater, after putting a new roof on a dog house in his yard, was afraid the dog would get out on the nails sticking through, and crawled in to clinch them on the inside. When he had finished the job he found that his coat was caught on a nail and he couldn't get out. He made all the noise he could, and finally, after a long while, his mother-in-law heard him.—Boston Globe.

Watch the expiration
date on the name label
on your Messenger. All
papers stopped when the
subscription expires.

HELD PRISONER FOR FOUR YEARS

French Judge Returns to Battered
Remains of Cambrai
Home.

HID PRICELESS CITY RECORD

Refused to Leave Post When Hun
Hordes Poured Through His Coun-
try—Tells of Cruelties Inflict-
ed by Invaders.

Paris.—There reached Paris recently a fine-looking old French gentleman, sad-eyed, hollow-cheeked. For four years he had been held prisoner by the Germans in the city of Cambrai. He had seen the Hun Kaiser three times passing through the streets of his city which previously had been swept by the French women. Night after night he had been forced to go and sit in the railroad stations of the city while the British bombed them. He had seen his friends, people once wealthy and of high birth, sent out to dig trenches, to bury the dead and to cultivate and weed the fields. For two years he had only soup and cocoa for his dinner and a semi-monthly allowance of three-quarters of a pound of meat and black bread.

Henri Bergier reached Paris just as the news came from the front that British and American troops had freed his home. As soon as he is strong enough to travel again he will return there to find, if possible, the priceless records of the city which he hid in 1914 when the Huns swept across Belgium and invaded northern France.

Stuck to His Post.
As a judge of a tribunal or court of Cambrai, Bergier refused to leave his post when the German hordes poured through his country in August, 1914. By a trick of chance he had just sent his wife and three daughters to Boulogne-sur-Mer, on the coast of France, for a holiday and was planning to join them early in September. The meeting was deferred just four years. He was captured, but was spared the bitterness of seeing his family subjected to the humiliations which came to the other women of Cambrai. His wife and daughters at once volunteered for hospital service and worked so heroically for three years that they were decorated by the French government with the medal "des epidemies et du devouement."

The story which Bergier brought back was one of want and suffering. The Germans held him as hostage so he was not maltreated. Whenever the city was bombed, however, he was sent with three other judges, also held as hostages, to sit in the railway stations so that they would be killed if the traffic centers were destroyed.

The people of the city who did not hold official positions were treated more summarily. The women were all made to do menial work of some kind, such as sweeping the streets of the city or cultivating and weeding the fields. The young boys and men were sent out to dig trenches and to bury the dead. No one was allowed to leave his lodgings after seven o'clock at night, and no lights were allowed at any time.

Turned Out of Homes.
Family after family was turned out of homes to make place for the wives of the German officers who came to stay in Cambrai with their husbands and for German actresses and singers who were brought from Germany to stage performances of grand opera and to make merry in the casinos. The prisons were kept filled with "offenders." One woman was thrown into jail because she had hidden a copper vessel, a family heirloom, in defiance of the German order requisitioning everything of metal from the people. Another woman was arrested because she read a copy of a French paper which had been dropped into the city by allied airplanes.

Early in September Bergier was told that an exchange had been effected and he was to return to France. He would be permitted to take with him what belongings he could carry. He found an old baby carriage with two wheels off and patched it up with wheels from a dismantled gun. His clothing, though threadbare, still held together, but he had no shoes at all. He took the leather portfolio which his youngest daughter had used to carry to school and made a sort of footgear out of it, using for soles the belting from a machine in an abandoned factory.

Part of his journey to Belgium he made on foot, pushing his belongings along in the old baby carriage. Part he made by train.

From Belgium M. Bergier went to Switzerland, finally arriving in Paris where he rejoined his family.

Four Average Ninety-Two Years.
Bowdoinham, Me.—Living together in this town are Mrs. Eleanor Sparks, aged one hundred years; her sister, Mrs. Mary A. Green, aged ninety-eight years; her brother, William K. Denham, eighty-five years, and his wife, aged eighty-five years.

Multiply in Transit.
Ellsworth, Me.—A local man sent a pair of Belgian hares from New Hampshire to his family here. When the crate was opened at the Ellsworth home there were 14 hares.

COMEDIANS OF OLD GREECE

Statues Found in Tombs Show That
Funmakers Were Much Like
Those Applauded Today.

The finding of some statues in an ancient Greek tomb is an opportunity for comparing the comedians of old times with those of today. The statues are believed to date back to the fourth century B. C. They are quite small—in fact, few of them measure more than six inches in height—but owing to the careful modeling they are still quite lifelike in spite of their extreme age. These little figures represent the funny men of that time, and it is curious to note the resemblance to the oddities of Charlie Chaplin.

One associates flowing robes and stately walk with the Greek actors, but these players are shown wearing short trousers and with an obvious caricature of a stately gait. Nothing was sacred from these comedians; even the greatest men of the day were subjects for their wit, which they carried to extremes. A good example of this is a statue of one of the funny men as Hercules, who was universally admired and venerated in ancient Greece. He is shown wearing his leopard skin lightly over one shoulder, with his finger in his mouth, looking coquettishly round him.

The costumes of these little figures must have been brilliant; there are still faint traces of pink and yellow on the terra-cotta of which the statues were made.

FOOD SUPPLIES IN COMMON

No Eskimo Allowed to Go Hungry
While His More Fortunate Brothers
Have Plenty.

The arctic explorer, Dr. Donald B. MacMillan, who returned recently after four years spent in the arctic regions, has many interesting things to say about the domestic and social customs of the Eskimo.

All property is owned in common, he tells us. When you enter a village you are not invited to come in. It is your right to enter and, if you are hungry, to help yourself to something to eat. If you happen to visit a house where a poor hunter lives, he says, "Nurket-turange (Nothing to eat)." He does not go hungry, however, because his neighbors have some, and he lives on his neighbors. Everything is divided up that way. If all the villagers are good hunters, their supplies last a long time, but if some are poor hunters, the clever fellow must share with them.

An Eskimo does not eat three meals a day and sleep at regular intervals. He eats when he is hungry, and sleeps when he is sleepy, and he puts it off as long as he can, so that he will enjoy it all the more. He will go around for six hours talking about how hungry he is, and then he will set to work and eat all he can. It is the same way with sleeping. He will go without sleep for 48 hours, and when he cannot keep his eyes open any longer he turns in for a 24-hour snooze.—Youth's Companion.

London's Sea Gull Visitors.
London's winter visitors, the sea gulls, have arrived particularly early this year. Never since the hard winter of 1895 first impelled them high up the river, and into hitherto unknown regions of parks and private gardens, have the birds omitted to make their yearly call to the Serpentine and Kensington gardens' round pond. On the river, of course, the gulls, single or in flights, have been regular habitues for many years, perhaps centuries. Feeding the gulls from the bridges is a favorite occupation for many a Londoner, or rather it used to be, for now the feeding of birds is forbidden, on the ground of waste, by the defense of the realm regulations. The gulls will have to shift for themselves this winter, and Londoners' reputation for hospitality will suffer accordingly in the bird world.—Christian Science Monitor.

Beaten To It.
"Germany, confessing her wickedness and protesting her repentance, reminds me of a rascally fortune hunter," said the director of military aeronautics, General Kenly.

"This fortune hunter was describing his pursuit of a Pittsburgh heiress. 'In proposing,' said his listener, 'you ought to have told her, George, that you were unworthy of her. That bait seldom fails.'"

"The fortune hunter gave a gloomy laugh. 'Yes, I was going to tell her that,' he said, 'but she told it to me first.'"

Tough on the Private.
Having heard that our soldiers in France lack soap, a Portland (Me.) girl sent to a sergeant major of the Fifty-fourth a package of soap leaves, and received in due time a letter from the sergeant major in which he expressed surprise that the girl hadn't remembered that he never smoked. He added that he had given the packet to a private who "rolls 'is own," and the private liked to have died of nausea.

Largest French Port.
Marseilles has at present in the vicinity of 1,000,000 inhabitants, and it is the largest port in France, as well as one of the wealthiest industrial and commercial centers. It is a distributing market for numerous products required in southeastern France and the French African colonies, but in the case of toys Paris controls the trade.

Come in Now

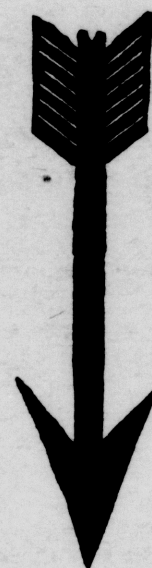
With big wells coming in all around Cumberland, you know the price of this stock will take the elevator in a short time. Shares are \$10.00 each today.

The Getting is Good Now

No wildcatting
in neighborhood
of Cumberland.

They get pure
deoil wells.

\$10.00--SHARES--\$10.00



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Cumberland has taken the gamble out of oil investment

In the Proven Field in Burkburnett

The holdings of the CUMBERLAND OIL COMPANY are recognized by men who have invested thousands of dollars in the Burkburnett field as one of the best propositions in that great territory. Near some of the largest producers. With good wells north, east, south and west, is it reasonable to suppose that Cumberland lease is dry? Men like S. M. Gose of Decatur, one of the heaviest investors in the field, states, "I consider the Cumberland property 100 per cent better than many properties now being drilled in Burkburnett; it looks better than the lease I recently assisted in putting a company on." John Scott, another successful operator in the Burkburnett field, says, "The Cumberland property should prove very valuable; it looks good." The opinions of these men, along with others who are familiar with surroundings and every foot of land on which the Cumberland will drill must be accepted. They know good property; they have been successful in their investments in a number of fields.

Millions of dollars are being made in the Burkburnett oil field. Men, poor yesterday, awake this morning wealthy beyond their fondest dreams. You know of hundreds of men and women who have "hit it lucky." You meet them daily. It is no idle talk. Facts and figures stare you in the face.

The Cumberland Oil Co. has five acres on Block 10 in the famous Dubose survey; in a stone's throw of wells that are making shareholders rich. Here is your opportunity. It is rapping on your door. Join the line to the paymaster's window!

Wise County men receive a 50 per cent dividend on a 14-day run; Walker Oil Company pays 75 per cent; Couch-Winfrey Oil Company pays 75 per cent; Hammond Oil Company No. 2 pays 100 per cent; Vindicator Oil Company pays 75 per cent; Floydada Oil Company pays 150 per cent; Big Three Oil Company pays 50 per cent; Staley-Willis pays 86 per cent; Big Pool Oil Company pays 100 per cent; Citizens' Oil Company pays 100 per cent; Columbia Oil Company pays 100 per cent.

Cumberland Oil Co

Capital Stock \$60,000

Trustees—Hugh Greer, Dr. J. V. Prunty, Holly Renshaw. Make all checks payable to Hugh Greer, Trustee, Decatur, Texas.
Reference—Any banker or business man in Decatur, Texas.

DECATUR, TEXAS

MAIL THIS COUPON TODAY

I hereby make application for shares of the capital stock of the CUMBERLAND OIL CO., par value \$10.00 per share. Enclosed herewith find money order for the sum of \$..... in full payment of stock to be issued me.
Name Address